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Senate panel passes '96 foreign aid bill

HILLEL KUTTNER
WASHINGTON

THE Senate Appropriations Committee yesterday passed the 1996 foreign operations bill that provides continued economic and military assistance for Israel and Egypt.

The bill also contains the new Middle East Peace Facilitation Act (MEPFA) that sets the conditions under which the administration may continue conducting relations with the PLO.

In yesterday's "mark-up" session, the committee essentially adopted the appropriations bill passed in the foreign operations subcommittee on Tuesday.

The bill will be sent to the full Senate for a vote next week.

Israel's supporters on Capitol Hill said that the fate of the bill, particularly the MEPFA component, will be better known in the days leading up to the Senate vote.

They say the reason is that it remains unclear whether Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman Jesse Helms, who authored the MEPFA, will continue to support it or switch allegiance instead to a bill offered by New York Senator Alfonse D'Amato that tightens the standards for PLO compliance with the Oslo and Cairo accords.

In an effort to put constraints on US aid to the PLO, Republican Congressman Benjamin Gilman (NY), head of the House Foreign Relations Committee, has called for hearings of the committee after Rosh Hashana. He intends to bring up Yasser Arafat's role in the fight against terrorism, and show videos of the Arafat speeches advocating jihad against Israel.



An IDF soldier pushes back Palestinians in Hebron yesterday during protests against Jewish presence in the city. Story, Page 2.(Reuters)

Serbs to remove heavy weapons from Sarajevo

THE Bosnian Serbs have agreed to begin moving their heavy weapons away from Sarajevo in return for a 72-hour pause in its bombing of Serb targets in the area, US officials said late yesterday.

"There's been an agreement for NATO to pause in the bombing to give Bosnian Serbs 72 hours to comply with the agreement they made," a senior US official said. The decision comes after

NATO declared a temporary halt to airstrikes against Bosnian Serbs earlier yesterday to encourage the rebels to remove their weapons and boost chances to end the Bosnian war.

Such a deal could advance the bid to end 3 1/2 years of war in Bosnia. It could end the NATO bombing that has angered the Serbs and threatened to derail peace talks, and bring a cease-fire

for Sarajevo. It would clear a major hurdle in peace talks, and ease tensions between the US and Russia.

"A temporary pause in airstrikes is in effect pending possible political developments that could meet the conditions on Sarajevo laid down by NATO and the United States," NATO said in a statement issued in Brussels. Western military officials said a

72-hour pause in NATO bombing was to begin last night. If the Serbs do not withdraw their heavy guns in three days, strikes would start again.

It was not clear whether the Serbs needed to withdraw completely, or just make a good-faith start in those 72 hours. The size of weapons that must be withdrawn also remained unsettled.

(AP, Reuters)

Most issues in PA talks resolved

Peres, Arafat may meet in Cairo tomorrow night

DAVID MAKOVSKY

IN a dramatic turnaround, Israel and the Palestinians have sharply narrowed several gaps in their self-rule negotiations over the last 24 hours, including the issue of Jerusalem.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat will meet tomorrow night - perhaps in Cairo - in a bid to conclude the negotiations so a signing ceremony can be held at the White House next Thursday.

Yesterday, there was frenetic diplomatic activity between Jerusalem, Cairo and Washington that is expected to reach an even more intense pitch over the weekend.

There is even speculation that talks may continue until Sunday night, at which point Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin may join them and witness the initialing of the document.

The issues that will be discussed over the weekend are the critical ones, primarily Hebron and release of Palestinian prisoners.

"It is possible that my meeting Saturday night with Chairman Arafat will be held in Cairo," Peres told *The Jerusalem Post* last night. "We are waiting now for an invitation from President [Hosni] Mubarak to finalize this. There are just a few issues left in

the negotiations."

Preventing a confirmation that the talks would be held in Cairo was the sensitive issue of Egyptian prisoners of war allegedly being executed by Israeli officers during the 1956 Sinai Campaign, sources said. Israel does not want to be placed in the awkward position of having Egyptian reporters at a press conference press its leaders for an official apology.

Peres confirmed that one of the main issues resolved in the ongoing mid-level negotiations in Eilat was how Palestinians living in eastern Jerusalem would participate in Palestinian elections.

This was one of the numerous issues resolved during round-the-clock talks. "On Wednesday there were 200 brackets," one source close to the negotiations said, "but by today we were down to 60. This has been remarkable, but negotiators have received marching orders from their political leaders to wrap almost all the issues."

The term "brackets" means the two sides have textual differences, ranging from substantial to minor, in their respective documents.

In Moscow yesterday, Rabin voiced hope that Peres and Arafat would reach an accord over the weekend. At the same time, he said that if they did not (Continued on Page 2)

Feiglin gets IDF promotion to captain

HERB KEINON

ZO Artzenu head Moshe Feiglin, placed under house arrest yesterday on suspicion of sedition, received a promotion from lieutenant to captain on Wednesday, the day of the group's protests near the Prime Minister's Residence.

Feiglin received a call from his reserve unit inviting him to a reception in honor of the promotion. Feiglin, a reserve officer in a combat unit of the engineering corps, said the officer who called

did not make the connection between him and Zo Artzenu.

An IDF official said that these types of promotion are automatic, depending on how long the individual has served in the reserves.

Feiglin, who has become a key player in the anti-government protests, is preaching civil disobedience, saying that he does not recognize the legitimacy

of the government.

In addition to the sedition charges, Feiglin was last month fined NIS 10,000 or 10 months in jail for his role in Zo Artzenu's operation last month, when the group blocked roads around the country. At that time he declared that he would not pay the fine and had 45 days before his sentence was to begin.

Feiglin said he has not decided whether to accept the promotion.

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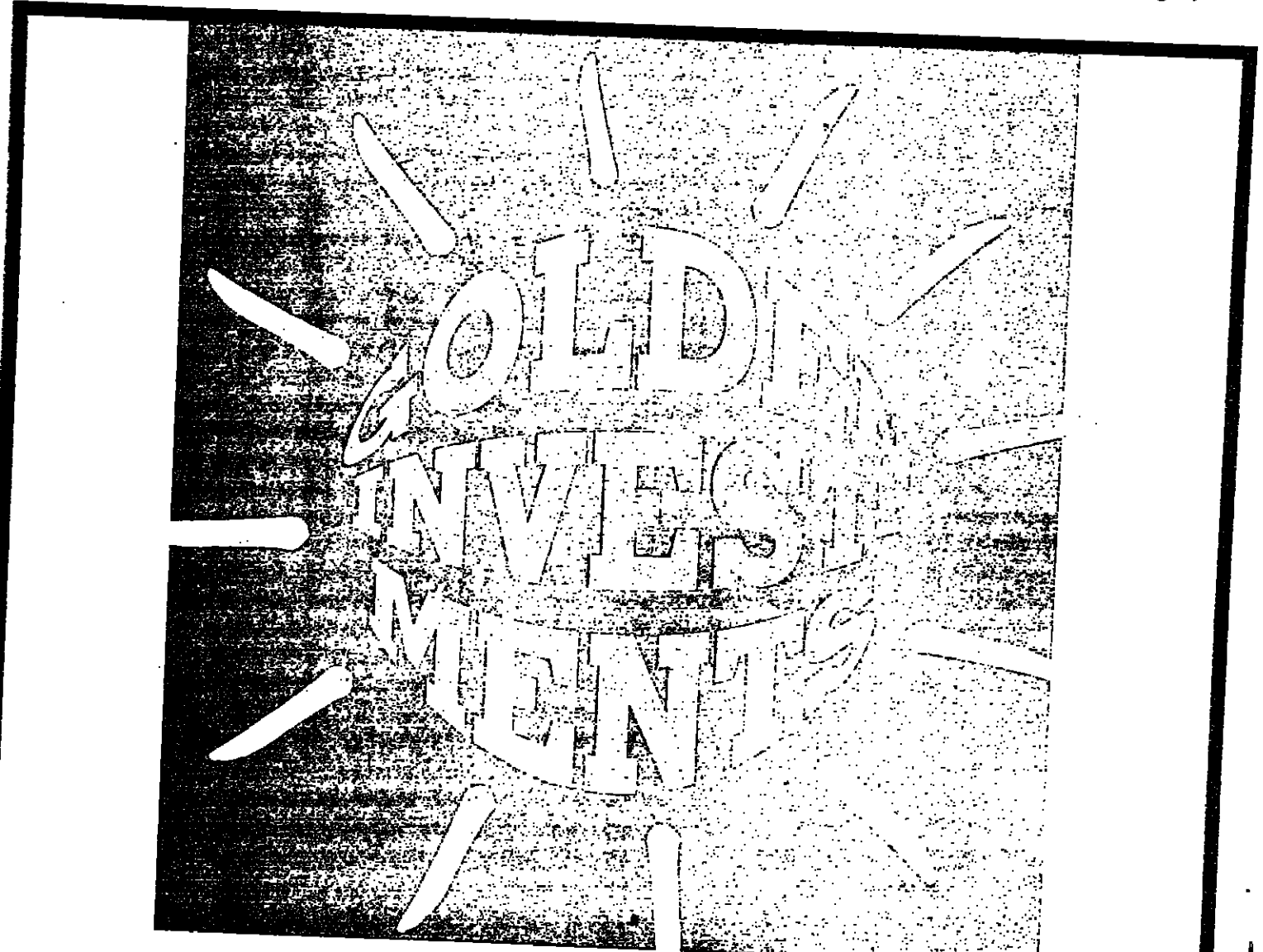
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Jerusalem	5:09	6:22
Tel Aviv	5:27	6:24
Haifa	5:20	6:23
Beer Sheva	5:26	6:22
Eilat	5:23	6:23



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Peres proposes deal on extradition as PA sentences two more fugitives

FOREIGN Minister Shimon Peres yesterday suggested a compromise between Israeli requests for transferring suspected killers to Israel for trial and the Palestinian preference for quick trials in Gaza and Jericho on more minor charges.

"If, for example, the fugitives are judged according to the charges made by Israel, this would be an improvement on the present situation," Peres said on Channel 1.

The Gaza Security Court sentenced two more Palestinian fugitives late Wednesday night to 12 years in jail, bypassing requests by Israel to have one of them transferred for trial.

One of the two men, Yusef Malahi, is on a list of seven whose transfer was formally requested by Justice Minister David Liba'i last week. Malahi is one of three Palestin-

JON IMMANUEL

ians whose transfer has been requested twice.

Israel charges Malahi with the murder of Gil Revah and Shlomo Kapah, two security men working on a building site in Ramle on August 27, 1994. A conviction in an Israeli court would result in Malahi being sentenced to two life sentences.

Palestinian Authority Attorney-General Khalid al-Kidrah told *The Jerusalem Post* that Malahi was not charged with murder, but was convicted of "planning to use violence against Palestinians and Israelis inside and outside Palestinian territorial jurisdiction."

The second man, Osama Abu Taha, charged with the same crimes as Malahi by the Gaza court, is suspected by Israel of being

involved in the killing of two Israeli soldiers on October 24, 1993 and of another soldier, Shai Ovadia, on July 19 of last year, according to Peace Watch, which monitors compliance with the Oslo accords.

However, Israel has not formally requested his extradition.

Liba'i went to Eilat yesterday to join the negotiations on expanding Palestinian self-rule, and to request that changes be made in the sections of the Cairo accords articles dealing with extradition, an issue which will become more problematic once more large cities in Judea and Samaria come under Palestinian Authority jurisdiction.

The Palestinians object to any changes to the Cairo formulation, which permits delaying extradition if the fugitive is in jail, and would like the extradition clauses canceled.

Terror victims' families demand government insist PA extradite suspects

IT is forbidden for the government to sign the Oslo-2 agreement with the Palestinian Authority as long as murderers of Israelis, who fled to its territory, are not extradited, members of bereaved families insisted during a protest outside the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem yesterday.

"This is not a political demonstration," said Batya Behar, the mother of Eran Behar, who was murdered in Wadi Kelt in October 1993.

"There is nothing here about which there is an argument be-

tween the Left and the Right. We simply haven't received any information on the fate of the killers. We request that when it is discovered who they are and where they are, they are extradited," she said.

MK Hanan Porat (National Religious Party), who participated in the demonstration, said that he had received a pledge from Labor Knesset faction head Ra'anana Cohen that his faction would support the NRP's call for an urgent Knesset debate on the PA's refusal to extradite suspected murderers. (Itim)

Alleged police brutality at Zo Artzenu protest being investigated

BILL HUTMAN

THE Police Investigations Division of the Justice Ministry yesterday opened a probe into allegations of police brutality and misconduct during Wednesday's Zo Artzenu demonstration.

"The investigation will be carried with due seriousness," a ministry spokeswoman said.

A complaint by a Magen David Adom driver that his ambulance was halted and he was pushed by a policeman are among those that have been filed.

Ilan Klein, a volunteer riding with the driver, said a policeman opened the ambulance to check whether there was really an injured person inside, before allowing the ambulance to go.

"The injured person was thrown from the stretcher and knocked unconscious when the ambulance was suddenly forced to halt by the policeman," said Klein. He said he and the driver had filed the complaint.

"The incident is being dealt with between MDA and the commanders of the Jerusalem police district, with the certainty

that cooperation between MDA and the Israel Police and the Jerusalem police district will continue," the MDA spokesman said.

Two protesters remained hospitalized in good condition yesterday, with eye injuries caused by the water cannons used against protesters, Israel Radio reported.

Zo Artzenu leader Moshe Feiglin, detained by police during the demonstration on suspicion of sedition, was put under house arrest for five days by the Petah Tikvah Magistrate's Court.

Shalom Sarel, another Zo Artzenu leader arrested during the Jerusalem demonstration, was released on bail.

The other 24 protesters detained at the protest were released on bail by the police and not brought for court for remand hearings.

Zo Artzenu spokesman Shmuel Sackett said more than 50 protesters were detained, but no legal measures were taken against about half of them and they were released late Wednesday night.

PA still refuses to take responsibility for agriculture

For the second time this week Palestinian representatives refused to accept responsibility for agriculture, which the civil administration has agreed to transfer to the Palestinian Authority as one of eight spheres of civil authority outside Gaza and Jericho.

The Palestinians are demanding that two farms in Jenin and Tul-karm be included in the deal.

Jon Immanuel

Defense Secretary Perry backs US troops' role in Golan accord

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — The US should be willing to contribute troops to a peacekeeping force on the Golan Heights if needed for an Israeli-Syrian peace agreement, Defense Secretary William Perry said yesterday.

"I believe that if Israel and Syria were to reach a peace agreement, and if that peace agreement were to call for a peacekeeping force on the Go-

lan Heights, the United States should be willing to contribute some of those peacekeeping forces," he told reporters at a lunch sponsored by the Overseas Writers Association.

"It may even be that the presence of US troops would be necessary to get that peace agreement," he added.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher acknowledged on Tuesday that Israeli-Syrian

peace negotiations had "slowed down" but insisted that he had not abandoned his mediation efforts, though he has not been to the Middle East since June.

He is expected to hold talks with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara when he is in New York the week of September 24 for the opening of the UN General Assembly.

Palestinian flag at focus of another Hebron demonstration

JON IMMANUEL

FOR the fifth straight day Hebron schoolgirls demonstrated over the night to put a PLO flag on a school opposite Beit Hadassah, and again the protest brought in more people over a wider area than the day before.

Hundreds of people joined the protest, and youths threw rocks at IDF jeeps from the streets and from rooftops. Their elders joined a demonstration outside City Hall.

A CNN cameraman was hit in the head by a stone and was taken to the hospital.

Soldiers again removed a Palestinian flag from the Kortuba school opposite Beit Hadassah. The flag has been

flown there and on other schools since the department of education was handed over to the Palestinian Authority in August last year, the first sphere of civil authority transferred outside Gaza and Jericho.

Legally, they are permitted to fly the flag, but to preserve public order the IDF asked them to put it on the side not facing Beit Hadassah.

The appearance of the flag on the roof was seen by settlers as a provocation. Yesterday, the area around Beit Hadassah was relatively quiet as the protest faded out in other streets, and settlers cheered as soldiers took away Palestinian detainees.

Eyal extremist group head released on bail

HERB KEINON

AVISHAI Raviv, head of the Kach splinter group Eyal that took credit for the murder of Salman Azamareh in Halhoul last week, was released on bail by Jerusalem Magistrate's Court yesterday.

Raviv, arrested Wednesday in Hebron, has denied any connection to the murder. He said he was questioned about the murder, and about vandalism against Palestinian property in the area.

"They asked me about the murder in Halhoul," Raviv said. "They asked if anyone from Eyal was involved. I refused to cooperate with the

police. "We deny any involvement," he said. "We do not condemn it, but no one from Eyal was involved. I don't know who did it, but if it was Jews, they should be praised."

Meanwhile, the remand of former Kach spokesman Noam Federman was extended for seven days by the court yesterday. Federman was arrested in Hebron for violating an order by OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Ilan Biran limiting his movement to the area near his Tel Rumeida home.

TALKS

(Continued from Page 1)

succeed, an alternative site for the signing would be set after Succot.

He indicated that it is important the two sides resolve all points, so there are no last-minute surprises such as there were at the Gaza-Jericho signing ceremony in May 1994, when Arafat refused to sign the maps.

But the Palestinians do not want the ceremony delayed until after the High Holy Days. They are concerned that if signing does not take place next week, the \$100 million in US assistance, which must be finalized before the US fiscal year begins on October 1, will be jeopardized.

"If there is no agreement, there is no US aid to the Palestinians," one key source said.

Moreover, a decision on whether there will be a Thursday ceremony in Washington must be made by Sunday evening, to give Mubarak and Jordan's King Hussein time to travel and to give the US time to plan the event.

While there has been a major narrowing of gaps, sources cautioned against too much optimism. "The issues left are clear, but the solutions are not," one source said.

The current position on some key issues is:

● Eastern Jerusalem: Sources say the two sides agreed on a 1990 formula that will allow Palestinians who live in eastern Jerusalem, but have another address elsewhere in the territories, to run as candidates in the Palestinian elections. Voting will be conducted at eastern Jerusalem post offices, but the votes will be counted in Abu Dis, another Arab village just outside city limits.

The ballots will have stamps attached, enabling Israel to claim they were filled by absentee voters.

● Maps: Palestinians want the IDF to not only withdraw from within the municipal boundaries of Arab cities in the territories, but also from nearby residential areas.

For example, the PLO wants a pullback from Al-Bireh and Beitunya, as well as Ramallah, and from Beit Sahour and Beit Jalla, as well as Bethlehem, sources said.

Two sources hoped this issue would be wrapped up before the Peres-Arafat meeting.

● Prisoners: There is at least one conceptual and one definitional difference on the release of Palestinian prisoners. Palestinians want even murderers released in the final phase, planned for next May. Israel rejects this.

However, the Palestinians also want a narrower definition of "those who have blood on their hands," arguing this category should only include those who actually killed, while Israel says it should also include those who ordered attacks which resulted in death or injury.

● Hebron: There are manifold differences on this issue. Rabin has said publicly Israel would withdraw from parts of the city not needed to protect Jewish settlers, but he wants the IDF to have freedom of movement throughout the entire city.

Arafat, instead, has called for a temporary arrangement that gives each side control over a portion of the city, with a third sector to be shared. He also wants a timetable for total IDF withdrawal, but Israel does not accept this.

Some insist Israel may accept the principle of gradual pullback from the entire city, as long as there is no definite timetable.

On a related point, Arafat wants to symbolize Palestinian control of Hebron, by having the Palestinian Police take over the IDF headquarters there.

Israel has said it would accept 50 Palestinian policemen armed with pistols, but Arafat would like an estimated 200 policemen carrying unspecified forms of "light" weaponry.

Finally, Arafat wants to end total IDF control of the Cave of Machpelah; instead, he would like the Palestinian Police to share authority with the IDF.

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Peres keeps option open of running against Rabin

FOREIGN Minister Shimon Peres refused last night to declare that he will not be a candidate for the premiership in 1996.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's camp has been energetically seeking to elicit such a commitment, to the point of offering to guarantee Peres the number two slot on the Labor list without his having to run in the primaries. Peres, however, told reporters that he "has not yet decided on the matter. It is not the issue uppermost in my mind and I do not want to draw the public's and

SARAH HONIG

party's attention from the vital goals of the peace process. I will make up my mind sometime early next year," he said.

The thinking around Rabin is that Peres may be insecure about his position and might regard the need to compete with lower-ranking politicians demeaning. But to avoid what could be perceived as unpredictable and humiliating primary contests, Peres might try for the number one slot. He would be then be party

leader if he wins, and would probably end up as number two even if he loses.

Party pundits note that Peres has nothing to lose by keeping the option of a showdown against Rabin alive. He can always pull out at the last minute and still get the number two slot. In the meantime, he will keep Rabin wary and on his toes.

Peres refused to comment about the suggestion the second slot be reserved for him. "No one has mentioned this to me," he said.

Zvilli: Drop Palestinian state objection

LABOR Party secretary-general Nissim Zvilli yesterday backed the demand that the Labor convention amend the party platform and remove the objection to the establishment of a Palestinian state.

This has long been the position of the party's left-wing and was most recently voiced by Economics Minister Yossi Beilin. However, Zvilli's support is regarded as

SARAH HONIG

highly significant.

Although Zvilli is a noted dove, his powerful role has placed him in the mainstream. Thus the fact that he chose to openly back what has thus far been the stance of only one sector in the party is seen by Labor insiders as indicating which way the party may very soon be going.

The Labor convention is slated to meet in March.

Likud Knesset faction chairman Moshe Katzav reacted by saying that "Zvilli has finally removed the mask of duplicity and hypocrisy from Labor. Its platform will now be identical to that of the Arab parties. It is good that the Israeli public will now know what it is facing and who it is being asked to vote for."

Nzo, Arafat to discuss visit to Orient House

DAVID MAKOVSKY

SOUTH African Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo will consult PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat today in Gaza about the advisability of visiting Orient House in eastern Jerusalem, South African officials said.

Israeli officials have been urging Nzo not to visit Orient House, even though his visit would come after Nzo already finished his official meetings with Israeli officials, including Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, whom he sees today. Should Arafat be existent, Nzo would make the visit, but it would occur on a Saturday and thereby minimize media exposure, these officials indicate.

Nzo feels torn, sources say. On one hand, his aides make clear that he wanted to do everything possible to have an upbeat visit, thereby paving the way for a visit by Prime Minister Nelson Mandela next year. On the other hand, there are longstanding ties between the PLO and the African National Congress, of which Nzo was a senior official.

During his meeting with Rabin, Nzo is expected to officially invite the prime minister to visit South Africa.

Israeli officials believe the Rabin trip will occur next year, but a date has yet to be set.

Meanwhile, a source knowledgeable about negotiations which took place during Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati's visit to Pretoria last month confirmed that Pretoria would store 15 million-18 million barrels of Iranian oil on South African soil. The oil would be exported to other parts of the region. Furthermore, South Africa would purchase 300,000 barrels of Iranian oil a day for its own use.

The US, which recently instituted a boycott of Iranian oil, has expressed its opposition to the arrangement.

However, the source stressed that the deal has yet to be implemented due to a South African environmental study just announced as a result of an unrelated oil spill just off South Africa's coast.

Halhoul man's body exhumed for autopsy

BILL HUTMAN

THE body of slain Halhoul resident Salim Azzamarch was exhumed yesterday and sent to the Institute of Forensic Medicine at Abu Kabir, as the investigation continued into last week's murder.

Police sources said family members were convinced an autopsy was necessary to help investigators find the assailants.

The sources denied reports the Palestinian Police were helping in the investigation, or that the Israeli Police had requested such help.

While the possibility Palestinians killed Azzamarch is being probed, the major avenue being considered is that right-wing extremists carried out the attack, the sources said.

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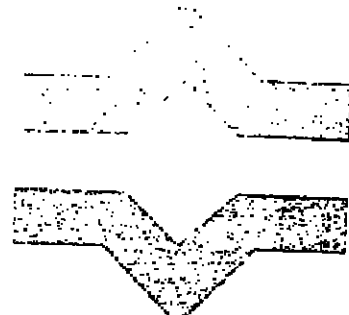
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Rabin discusses Iran nuclear deal, MIAs with Russian leaders

MOSCOW (AP) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said he got a fuller explanation from Russia about its plans to build a nuclear reactor in Iran, but added he was no chance Israel could talk Russia out of the deal.

Rabin also asked the Russians to press both Tehran and Damascus for information about the fate of Israeli MIAs.

"It looks like Russia is committed to the agreement," he said. "If the United States and President Clinton couldn't convince the Russian government, I don't pretend to."

Rabin spoke with reporters after a round of meeting with top Russian officials, including Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev and Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin. Kozyrev stood in for President Boris Yeltsin, who is vacationing in the Black Sea resort of Sochi.

"I got an explanation of what the issues are and the framework," Rabin said.

Chernomyrdin immediately reassured Rabin that Russia's deal to complete construction on a nuclear reactor at Iran's Bushehr plant poses no threat to Israeli security.

He insisted that the agreements are of a purely

peaceful nature and adhere to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, Russian news agencies reported.

While both Russia and Iran say the \$800 million deal has no military value, the US and Israel have expressed fear that Iran will use the technology to build nuclear weapons.

"The main concern over Iran growing stronger is its nuclear ability, even if it is only in the civilian sphere," Rabin said. "We have information that even before the Russian-Iran agreement, Iran aspired to achieve nuclear capability and acquire weapons of mass destruction."

Kozyrev expressed hope the talks would provide an impetus for further Russian participation in the Middle East peace negotiations, which Moscow is co-sponsoring.

Rabin also met with Defense Minister Pavel Grachev and Foreign Trade Minister Oleg Davydov.

Their talks were scheduled to address several joint projects, including the construction of a large poultry factory near Moscow, the launch of an Israeli nature conservation satellite on a Russian booster rocket, and the creation of a Russian-Israeli business aircraft.



Stephen and Rosalyn Flatow confer with Jill Indyk, wife of the US ambassador, after a transplant room was dedicated in their daughter Alisa's memory yesterday at Beilinson Hospital. (Yossi Zeliger)

Agency official denies he said right-wing extremists should be barred from immigrating

THE head of the Jewish Agency delegation to North America angrily denied a report published yesterday in *Yediot Aharonot* that quoted him as saying that right-wing extremist Jews should be forbidden from immigrating to Israel, and that "Israel has become a country of refuge for lunatics."

"The remarks attributed to me were completely misrepresented and the opposite of what I said," Gad Ben-Ari said yesterday.

"I am not for changing the Law of Return. The current situation in Israel does not give any room or create any reason for changing the law."

While the law does allow the barring of anyone who might be deemed a threat to national security, the rules are very restrictive and the agency has no tools to identify such individuals, he said.

Although the *Yediot* story mentioned Kahane Chai and Kach as groups whose members

MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK

should be barred, Ben-Ari insisted he never mentioned any specific organization. Both groups were declared illegal in Israel last year, following the Machpela Cave massacre by Baruch Goldstein.

The Jewish Agency does not investigate the political beliefs of potential immigrants, he said.

The *Yediot* report set off sparks among agency officials.

"The Jewish Agency would not dream of practicing 'selection' among Jews who wish to immigrate to Israel," agency chairman Abraham Burg said in a statement early yesterday. "Religious faith, race, sex or political beliefs will not be considerations for preventing the immigration of Jews."

There had been reports that Ben-Ari would be called to Jerusalem to account for the published statements. But he said he had assured Uri Gordon, head of the agency's Immigration Department, that the printed statements were "an unfortunate distortion."

The *Yediot* story quoted Ben-Ari as saying that Israel had to find a way to prevent the immigration of "Baruch Goldsteins."

Following the Machpela Cave massacre in February 1994, Ben-Ari said, he was among those who said it would be appropriate for another stipulation to the Law of Return to forbid aliyah of "active members of organizations or movements that are illegal in Israel."

"But I made a clear distinction [to *Yediot*] between the situation after the massacre and the situation in Israel today."

Ben-Ari noted that earlier this week he met with the Orthodox Rabbinical Council of America.

"I emphasized the need for open dialogue and civility of debate."

"I will be happy to fight for my positions," he continued, "but I will not tolerate any distortions of my positions."

Yediot Aharonot would not comment on the matter last night.

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Transplant room named for Alisa Flatow

JUDY SIEGEL

ALISA Flatow, whose parents donated her organs for transplant after she was killed in the Kfar Darom suicide bomb attack, was permanently memorialized at the heart-transplant room at Beilinson Hospital yesterday.

Present at the Petah Tikva hospital for the emotional room-naming ceremony were her par-

ents, Stephen and Rosalyn Flatow of New Jersey, and the man who received her heart, Ya'acov Salinas. Also participating were Health Minister Ephraim Sneh, Kupat Holim Clalit director-general Avigdor Kaplan and Jill Indyk, wife of the US ambassador, who was abroad.

Sneh said the terror attack illustrates "the difference between us and our enemies: When a terrorist went to his death he took with him a number of innocent young people, but when Alisa Flatow was killed, she gave life to

a number of people thanks to her parents' noble contribution." "By now I've thought of it a thousand times," said Stephen Flatow. "I'm sure that our decision was correct. I know that many Israelis need transplants and that doctors are able to perform them, but there aren't enough donors."

Diplomats can now keep their non-Hebraic names

Jerusalem Post Staff

THE government is abandoning its longstanding practice of requiring official representatives abroad to adopt Hebrew names, officials said yesterday.

The change reflects the increasing self-assurance of a country whose leaders once fretted that foreign names could impede the delicate task of forging a nation out of disparate immigrants.

The country's first premier, David Ben-Gurion — born Gruen — set the heavy-handed tone by personally overseeing name changes like that of his protégé Shimon Peres.

Officials like ex-premiers Golda Meir and Yitzhak Shamir — born Meyerson and Yezemitzky, respectively — set an example followed by legions of Israelis and imposed on diplomats and top army officers.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Haim Koren told the Associated Press the policy was abandoned as a result of an unnamed diplomat's refusal to change his name.

"A foreign service officer about to be sent abroad asked me for permission to retain his family name," Civil Service Commissioner Yitzhak Gahnon, formerly Goldennut, told Israel Radio. "The plea that touched my heart was that he loved his name and that a change would hurt his elderly mother, who would never understand."

The dispute was submitted to

the Civil Service Authority, whose legal department recently issued an opinion in recent days that forced name-changes violated basic rights.

Koren said the Foreign Ministry "still prefers the use of Hebrew names." But he admitted forcing name changes was "unfair policy."

"They put serious pressure on people to change their names," said Koren, whose own name was changed from Klein on account of a posting in Nepal 10 years ago.

Ronit Gadish, a researcher at the Hebrew Language Academy in Jerusalem, said she has long helped diplomats devise Hebrew names that would satisfy the Foreign Ministry while retaining either the sound or the meaning of the original.

"They would call at the last minute before leaving for their assign-

ment, desperate to find a name," she said. Gadish stressed the academy — whose role is to encourage the use of proper Hebrew — has no objection to foreign names.

Koren noted the name-change policy has been applied inconsistently in recent years and exceptions were allowed — like current Ambassador to the US Itamar Rabinovich.

"In the '40s and '50s, people changed their names because they felt it was a way to wipe out their foreignness and be born again as Israelis," Gadish said.

But now even the IDF is easing its tradition of requiring senior officers to adopt Hebrew or Hebrew-sounding names.

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shashak now appends his more prosaic original name of Lipkin. OC Air Force Maj.-Gen. Herzl Bodinger never even bothered to change his name.

AKUM honors Shoshana Damari, Avihu Medina

AKUM — the Society of Composers, Authors, and Music Publishers — has awarded top honors to songstress Shoshana Damari and composer/lyricist Avihu Medina in its list of 1994 prize winners for Hebrew light music.

Damari won the AKUM Award for her all-round contribution to Hebrew song. Medina won the NIS 20,000 Judges Prize for his life's work.

Other major prize winners are composer Arcadi Duchin and lyricist Micha Shitrit, who each won the NIS 12,500 Zeira Prize for achievement in Hebrew song, and Avner Kenner, whose music for the theater won the NIS 12,500 Judges Prize.

Helen Kaye

Does anyone know the whereabouts of TRIZA COHEN YOHANANOFF, born in Israel on September 15, 1950.

Her married name was PEMBER. She lived in Johannesburg, South Africa from 1970 to 1975. She has a daughter TALYA PEMBER, born in Johannesburg, South Africa on July 29, 1972.

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There'll be treats for the kids and play areas and dozens of families who know what it means to parent triplets.

For further details: Lorraine: Tel. 09-7710233 Wendy: Fax. 02-767970

Ministry of Health

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1) Under the terms of the National Health Insurance Law, it is not possible to be a member of more than one health fund.

A person registered in two health funds will be considered a member of the fund he joined most recently.

2) It will be possible to switch to another health fund only after one year's membership in a fund.

3) A request to switch health funds may be canceled up to 60 days prior to the last date of registration (September 30 or January 30 of every year). Notice of cancellation must be submitted to the health fund you wished to quit.

4) Though requests for change may be submitted at any time, the actual changes in membership are implemented only once every six months. Requests for transfers submitted by September 30 will go into effect the following January 1, and requests submitted by March 31 will go into effect the following July 1.

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مكتبة الامير



Rev. David Yonggi Cho, head of the Yoido Full Gospel Church in South Korea, receives a tree-planting certificate from Jewish National Fund official Mati Kohavi at the Jerusalem Peace Forest yesterday. Cho, who also heads an organization of Pentecostal churches, said he will return in February with 10,000 followers. (Joe Malcolm)

Envoy leaving Egypt, but 'not due to threats'

ISRAEL'S ambassador to Egypt will be given a new assignment, a Foreign Ministry official confirmed yesterday, but denied reports the diplomat wanted to leave Cairo for fear of assassination by Egyptian extremists.

The ambassador, David Sultan, has come under attack by Egyptian opposition newspapers which accused him of killing Egyptian prisoners of war while serving in the IDF. One daily labeled Sultan "the butcher ambassador."

The accusations, repeatedly denied by Sultan and the Israeli government, were made after reports emerged in Israel last month that hundreds of Egyptian prisoners were allegedly killed by Israeli soldiers in the Sinai Campaign and Six Day War.

"I have been singled out as a target, my life is in danger," Sultan was quoted as telling *Yediot Aharonot*.

Asked yesterday whether Sultan would wrap up his stay in Cairo, Foreign Ministry spokesman Danny Shekh said: "Yes, he is supposed to return, but we have been talking about that for a year."

Shekh denied that Sultan was being moved in response to threats. "That's not the reason. But that doesn't change anything about the gravity of the threats on his life."

Shekh would not say when Sultan would return to Jerusalem for good. Sultan has been the ambassador in Egypt for three years, the average tour of duty for ambassadors.

Sultan said that six months ago, he raised the possibility of moving to another post. "I did not ask to wind up my position as Israeli ambassador to Cairo because of the articles written in

opposition newspapers," Sultan told Army Radio yesterday. "Any move will be a result of the routine changing of appointments in the Foreign Ministry," said Sultan. (AP)

Swiss leader: Banks should not profit from stolen money

SWISS President Kaspar Villiger said yesterday that he accepts the principle that no bank should profit from money that does not belong to it and that was obtained in an illegal fashion.

Speaking at a Bern meeting with Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg and World Jewish Congress President Edgar Bronfman, Villiger said he was pleased that negotiations had begun with Swiss bankers regarding tracing funds that had been deposited by Jews before or during the Holocaust, and valuable items stolen from Jews that had been stored in banks by Nazis.

Following the meeting with Villiger, Burg and Bronfman met with members of the Swiss Bankers Association, telling them the

Jerusalem Post Staff

issue to be stressed is not the money, but humanitarian justice. "It should not occur to anyone that one frank or gold ingot should lie in the safe of someone who made profits at the expense of a person whose money was stolen from him," Burg told the bankers.

He asked that the banks agree to let any Jew who tries to ascertain the fate of his family's money or property be given a full answer, and that no relevant information be withheld.

A process of cooperation between the banks and the Jewish organizations was agreed upon. Each side will send a team to discuss the moral principles that will govern the applications process.

A joint administration will then be set up to work out details regarding the legal issues and the process by which inquiries would be made. Emphasis is to be put on methods to assure that claims for funds and property are genuine.

These details are to be worked out by the end of the year, at which point information about the inquiry process would be publicized throughout the world. An independent search office may be opened in January, the Associated Press reported.

Following the meeting, the bankers association issued a statement saying the talks were held in an open, constructive spirit and that both sides were looking for a satisfactory and practical solution for both sides.

Likud: Politics led Channel 1 to choose Rabin

THE Likud last night accused TV Channel's One of "playing politics and currying favor" when it chose Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin as its man of the year. Channel 2 chose Likud Chairman Benjamin Netanyahu.

Both channels are aggressively promoting their year-end magazines, to be aired tonight, in which their man of the year choices will be featured.

According to a Likud statement issued yesterday, the

SARAH HONIG

"choice of the prime minister by the state-owned TV channel is a rigged and fixed game, which could have easily been anticipated ahead of time. It emits the strong odor of a fawning attitude. The state-owned TV makes a great deal of effort all year round to keep the authorities satisfied. This is not only the case on Rosh Hashana."

The Likud asked "whether the state-owned TV in Israel thinks it

is like the state-owned channels in Iraq and Libya."

Both channels claim to have chosen their man of the year on the basis of opinion surveys, but the Likud says Channel 1 "deliberately avoided asking political questions like who can best lead the country or who can best conduct negotiations."

All the high scorers in the Channel 1 poll were Laborites, with Netanyahu and other opposition figures ranking extremely low.

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Inviting national trauma

YESTERDAY'S quick release from detention of two leaders of Wednesday's anti-government demonstrations must raise uncomfortable questions. The court determined that there was no basis for the serious police allegations of sedition. And it is difficult to escape the feeling that they were arrested only because the police wanted them out of the way.

The two, Moshe Feiglin and Shalom Sarel, are certified extremists who have limited support in the community. They talk against the government in language that must rile every believer in civilized discourse, and with the single-mindedness of zealots they advocate the kind of civil disobedience that can disrupt the lives of all.

And yet, in a democratic country, they have the right not to be preemptively arrested. That the police detained them even before they had a chance to break the law, and that the charges of sedition against them were pressed even though the police must have known they could not stand up in court, is a greater threat to democracy than whatever disruptions Feiglin, Sarel and their Zo Artzenu followers could have caused.

Nor was their arrest the only police action which must cause concern. Viewers of the event's television coverage saw mounted policemen charging into a milling crowd of decidedly unthreatening men, women and children. One horseman deliberately and brutally bent over and beat to the ground a woman standing with her back to him, obviously too confused to know where to go. It was a totally unnecessary bit of brutality, the kind that makes one wonder about the policeman's emotional and mental stability.

Not that all men in uniform behaved similarly. On the contrary. Chances are the majority hated having to disperse the demonstrators forcefully. Following orders to clear the streets, and told by their commanders over the megaphone to use force, most nevertheless conducted themselves within reasonable bounds. But there were also policemen whose aim was obviously not merely to disperse the demonstration, but to deter protesters from ever attending such demonstrations again. This they did with indiscriminate beatings of defenseless people, most of whom had tied their own hands to show that their resistance was strictly passive.

Having learned from past experience that the police not only routinely use violence but accuse the protesters of initiating it, the demonstrators filmed the events with video and still cameras. The pictures are ugly indeed. And if Police Minister Moshe Shahal, who refuses to admit that some of his men emulate police-state tactics, wants to be fair and credible, he should

view them and act against the culprits. Most of the officers are easily identifiable, and it would restore public confidence in legal recourse if a judicial investigation, rather than an internal whitewash, is instituted to probe their conduct.

Even more upsetting than these scenes of uncontrolled police behavior are testimonies of brutality in police lockups. In street action, police violence can be blamed on nervousness and fear (although on Wednesday policemen outnumbered the demonstrators). In lockups, brutality against detainees suspected of disorderly conduct is nothing but sheer sadism and a mockery of the democratic process.

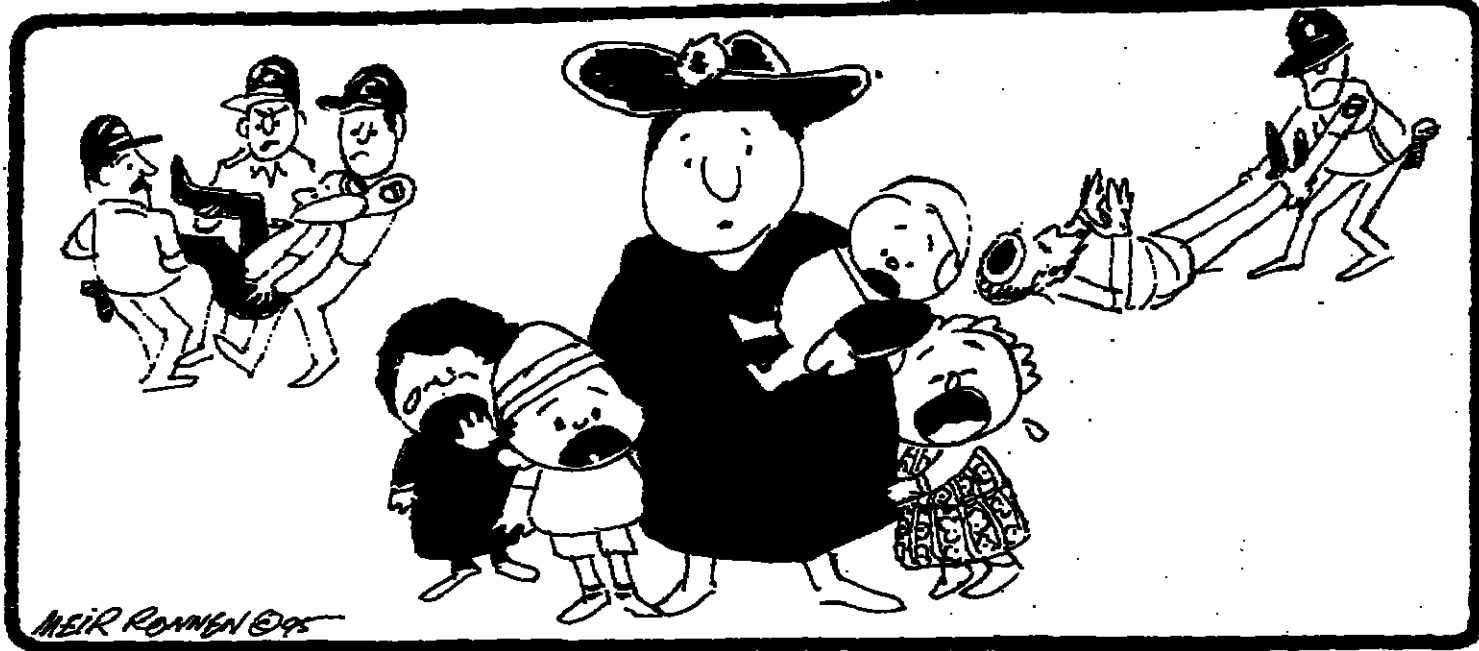
In a recent article in *Ha'aretz*, the editor of the monthly *Nekuda*, Yisrael Harel, quotes from the court testimony of a demonstrator charged with no less than the attempted murder of a police officer. The 22-year-old protester described the beating of a boy by no fewer than seven policemen of the special anti-demonstration unit. A medic by profession, the protester tried to help the boy, but then made the cardinal error of noticing the name tag of the officer in charge and calling him by name. This led to his immediate arrest.

Once in the lock-up, the officer banged his head against the door, throttled and slapped him, kicked him in the groin, and warned: "You ever mention my name at a demonstration, and I'll see to it that you return home in a body bag."

Fortunately, the courts are still governed by a sense of justice and democratic principles. The judge not only promptly released the protester but ordered the incident to be investigated by the Police Investigations Division of the Justice Ministry. It would be nice to believe that the officer involved will be duly punished, but the division is better known for whitewashes than for fairness. Nor is it likely that the self-styled human rights organizations will seek a remedy for brutality against people whose politics they despise.

The harsh suppression of demonstrations indicates that the government is worried about them, despite their failure to attract large crowds. The police may be correct in believing that the danger of beatings keeps potential demonstrators away. In this they are following the path of confrontation and polarization set by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, a leader who would rather curse the darkness than light a candle.

But surely government leaders know that even if the Oslo agreement works, the road to peace is long and arduous. To compound the fears of the Jewish majority with hostility, brutality and suppression is to invite a national trauma whose consequences none can foresee.



The importance of alternatives

MOHAMMED Dahlan, head of the Palestinian security services, didn't wait for Prime Minister Rabin's permission to refuse the extradition of murder suspects who have sought refuge in Gaza and Jericho.

He openly told journalist Roni Shaked in Eilat: "The Palestinian Authority has decided, with Arafat's approval, not to extradite our fellow Palestinians to Israel - even though this is a breach of the agreement with Israel."

Dahlan is a member of the Palestinian negotiating team. Even as he sits and discusses the terms of the interim agreement, he admits that the PA has violated the Oslo agreement for ideological reasons.

"We are not prepared to go down in history as having extradited Palestinians to Israel," Dahlan added.

Could anything be clearer? The PA security head has no fear of openly admitting intended violations of the agreement with Israel, being sure that Israel will simply swallow such violations. He believes that Israel has no alternative, and will thus end up accepting the Palestinians' terms.

Statements made simultaneously by Yasser Arafat in Gaza and Shimon Peres in Jerusalem reflect the change which has taken place in Israeli and Palestinian

MOSHE ZAK

perceptions of the alternatives.

In a speech last month at the celebration of his daughter's birth, Arafat stated: "If the Israelis think there is no alternative to negotiations, then I swear by Allah that they are mistaken."

At the same time, speaking before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Peres rejected the opposition's view

the devices used by the suicide bombers in Tel Aviv, Ramat Gan, and Jerusalem, it will only confirm his opinion that Israel is so enslaved to the negotiations that it will stomach anything.

And if Faisal Hussein can threaten that any impairment of the freedom of activity at Orient House will lead to a renewal of the intifada, there is no reason for

The side that shows it lacks options is the side that ends up losing

that an alternative exists to the Oslo agreement.

The teams in Eilat know that in these complex negotiations, only the side that has an alternative can achieve its ends. Giving the other side the impression that one has no alternative but to agree to its proposals - as our foreign minister has done - is a sure way to lose every trick.

If Dahlan finds that the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations remain unhampered by his declaring that the Palestinians will never extradite people like Yihye Ayyash, "The Engineer," who prepared

PLO leaders not to dig in their heels over Hebron, or any other issue.

In a situation where a militia numbering thousands of Palestinian police is being established - clearly flouting the Oslo agreement, which limits PA police to 9,000 men - PLO leaders can only conclude that Israel will be quite willing to turn a blind eye to other infringements of the Declaration of Principles, and of the agreement now being negotiated.

When, this week, PLO leaders saw Prime Minister Rabin slugging off his justice minister's harsh criticism of the PA over its

non-extradition of murder suspects - criticism that was also voiced by other ministers, and by the chairman of the opposition - what else could they conclude but that Israel wants the agreement signed at any price?

The PLO continues to believe that the Jews have only given up the right to have murderers extradited from Gaza and Jericho so as not to delay the signing of the interim agreement. It feels certain that a government which can justify the return to Gaza and Jericho of Palestinian opponents of the Oslo agreement, people like intifada leader Abbas Zaki and poet Mahmud Darwish (author of the declaration of Palestinian independence), will also be able to justify Arafat's frenzied incitement against Israel, despite the fact that this constitutes a gross infringement of the Oslo agreement. They will claim that deeds are more important than words.

But if words aren't important, why are 200 negotiators sitting in Eilat, and why Peres's rush to meet Arafat in Taba tomorrow night?

As long as the Palestinians fail to understand that Israel does have alternatives to Oslo, it will be hard to reach any agreement they are willing to honor.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.

After two years, a balance sheet

ARIEL SHARON

TWO years have passed since that ecstatic funeral on the White House lawn, that shameful, groveling handshake with Yasser Arafat, a killer of innocents, a war criminal by any criterion known to man. Two years since the government implored, "Let's try," and swept along even those revolted by the handshake.

What has happened since then? What are Arafat's attainments? What has he conceded, what has he lost? And what are Israel's gains?

● Arafat has won control of parts of the Land of Israel, where Palestinians never ruled.

● He has consolidated Palestinian statehood in Jerusalem. Orient House is recognized by the world community as the Palestinian foreign ministry. Heads of state, foreign ministers, ambassadors and Israeli collaborators visit it regularly, to the government's feeble protests.

● Arafat's security forces have gained control on the Temple Mount, having expelled the Jordanian representatives there. In collaboration with the Jerusalem police, they assault Jews who dare enter the Mount's plaza.

● Almost 50 years after Israel's war of independence, Arafat has begun realizing the Palestinian "right of return."

● Arafat has won international legitimacy. From the miserable, pathetic figure of a whining murderer he has turned into a sought-after house guest in royal palaces, presidential residences and prime ministers' offices.

● Through Israel's efforts, the PLO has been transformed from a bankrupt, beggarly organization

into a recipient of massive financial assistance from many sources, including the Israeli taxpayer. A goodly part of this assistance goes to private bank accounts and for anti-Israel activities inside Israel.

● In flagrant violation of the agreement which allowed him an armed force of 7,000 (itself far larger than necessary), he has assembled an army which in Gaza alone numbers more than 21,000.

with utter impunity. He does not extradite murderers; his men continue to kill Israel's Arab allies, who have prevented numerous Israeli casualties, in territories under Israeli rule; his cadres are building enormous caches of arms and explosives; Hamas is establishing a sizable infrastructure in areas under his rule; the Palestinian security forces dominate eastern Jerusalem, and more.

● In Oslo the Palestinians were astonished by the Israeli concessions. They haven't been disappointed since. The weakness of Oslo has become fear and trembling, accompanied by a sick passion to give in to the end.

And what has Israel achieved? ● The agreement with Arafat has helped it convert a de facto peace with Jordan into a contractual peace, something undoubtedly achievable without total surrender to Arafat.

● Conditions have made possible open contacts with parts of the Arab world most distant from Israel's borders. There, too, secret contacts have already existed since the Begin government, and even before.

On the other hand, the future of peace treaties and relations with the Arab regimes now depends on further concessions to the Palestinians. The agreements have become hostage to our relations with Arafat.

HE VIOLATES the agreement

And what concessions has the government made?

● Arafat's achievements are a heavy price in Israeli coin, paid with no compensation.

● The government has relinquished parts of the Jewish homeland, the nation's cradle, of which we are custodians for generations to come.

● The government has forfeited the right to defend Israeli citizens and handed it to Arafat. Israeli casualties have tripled, and the government is about to compound this blunder in the second stage, despite warnings by the security echelons.

● The army has lost its power to deter; the Israeli soldier no longer inspires awe.

● The government has forfeited national honor.

● It has given up Jewish unity, the broad national consensus so vitally needed for the achievement of peace.

Despite all these concessions, there isn't a hint of reconciliation or a desire for coexistence in Arafat's actions and pronouncements. As our intelligence services put it, they are preparing for the next war, after they get what they were promised in the Oslo agreement.

The talk of jihad mocks the promised changes in the Palestinian Covenant, even if they are made.

If the government doesn't change its course, the agreement will ultimately collapse. This, in turn, will undermine the peace treaties with Egypt and Jordan, and may even lead to war.

The writer, a former defense minister, is a Likud MK.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PEACE AS SEEN BY Yael DAYAN

Sir, - On her recent visit to San Paulo, MK Yael Dayan impressed the public with her eloquence. But her optimism about Arab leaders can hardly convince when one remembers their behavior in the past. Since the establishment of the State of Israel, many pacts and agreements have been signed among them, whose main goal was the destruction of the Jewish State. The internal Arab struggle for power, followed by assassinations and slaughter of political opponents, as well as terrorist acts committed in the past and in the present, have left their marks.

We agree with Yael Dayan that peace is more important than "Greater Israel" with a million and a half Arabs within its borders, and that without returning the territories, peace will not be achieved. But we cannot agree with her assertion that we should be confident about the future, because the Arab leaders' way of thinking has changed and a majority of the Palestinians wish for peace with Israel. Still fresh in our minds are scenes of the Palestinians applauding from the roofs of their houses every Scud missile launched against Israel by Saddam Hussein.

After the handshake between Arafat and Rabin, I stressed that peace would be fully achieved if each of the parties were able to control its extremists. Israel has complied with its obligations, taking all due precautions after the assassination of the worshippers in the Hebron Mosque by a fanatic Jew. Also, several demonstrations of repudiation took place in Israel condemning that massacre. Since then, in spite of acts of terrorism that continue both in Israel and abroad (AMNIA in Argentina) there have been no public demonstration in the territories repudiating such acts.

According to Yael Dayan, a "hard line" should be adopted against the settlers who refuse to leave their abodes. She said it is up to them to choose between returning to Israel and living in the territories under Palestinian rule. "After all," said Yael, "in the same way as the Jews in the Diaspora live, so can they remain there, if they like the

landscape and the atmosphere of that region. The choice is theirs..."

This is a rather vague definition of the problem, that should be treated with the greatest care. After all, it was Rabin himself, at the head of the Labor government, who supported the Allon plan for the formation of Jewish settlements along the Jordan River and at strategic points.

It may be preferable to have peace without territories than the territories without peace. But the continuity of the Jewish people is linked to a strong and independent State of Israel. May God enlighten the leaders of the Jewish State, that they may know how to attain peace without risking the safety and tranquility of its people.

BEN ABRAHAM
San Paulo, Brazil.

VOTER WORKSHOPS

Sir, - We would like to inform all US citizens eligible to vote in the November 1996 election that a series of voter workshops will be held to inform them how to fill out properly their 1996 registration forms and the FPCA card to request their absentee ballots. These FPCA cards were recently revised and simplified since many overseas voters were disenfranchised by filling their requests incorrectly.

The following three workshops will be given:

1. In Tel Aviv, October 1, at 6 p.m., at the AACI office, 22 Mazeh Street.
2. In Jerusalem, October 18, at 4 p.m., at the AACI building, 6 Mano Street.
3. In Beersheba, October 19, at 6 p.m., at the AACI, 22 Sokolow Street.

Your overseas voting questions will be answered. Admission is free. These voter workshops are co-sponsored by Democrats and Republicans Abroad in Israel, AACI and The Jerusalem Post. For further details, please call 08-457671.

DAVID FROELICH, Secretary,
Democrats Abroad (Israel)
Rehovot.

ETHIOPIAN IMMIGRANTS

Sir, - In "Let's get the facts straight" (August 25), Minister of Education Amnon Rubinstein attempts to defend his ministry's record on the educational absorption of Ethiopian immigrants. He cites the "fact" that "the percentage of Ethiopians studying in higher education institutions is identical to the national average for other Israelis." What the minister does not mention is that the majority of those Ethiopians studying in such institutions are in *mechina* programs. These excellent programs allow some Ethiopian students to study basic mathematics, English and other subjects that should and would have been part of their high-school education if they had not been indiscriminately tracked into low-level, no-future vocational schools. While we applaud the *mechina* program, it is deceptive for Minister Rubinstein to equate an Ethiopian immigrant finishing *bagrut* with Israeli university and graduate students.

Minister Rubinstein cannot refute, and therefore ignores, the grave facts on education in pre-school, elementary school and high school which formed the basis for *The Jerusalem Post* editorial, "Ethiopians and Israeli Values." He has to face up to his basic responsibility towards Ethiopian immigrant children: to provide them with the educational push they need to successfully integrate into Israeli society. Privately funded programs have proven successful beyond a shadow of doubt that Ethiopian students who are given intensive help for a year or two are able to overcome the educational gaps caused by the travails of immigration and go on to realize their naturally high potential. The Israeli government's failure to provide such programs is an act of negligence which will result in dire consequences for Ethiopian immigrants, for Israel as a society and for the Jewish people as a whole.

RABBI MICHA ODEHEIMER,
Director, Israel Association for
Ethiopian Jews.
Jerusalem.

POSTSCRIPTS

CHARLES GIBSON nearly fainted when he looked down and realized his barber had bitten off his thumb because he had backed out of a \$5 haircut.

"There was nothing there," he said through tears. "He just literally chewed it off."

"I told him, 'Look what you've done! Look what you've done!' Then he spit it out and ran away."

Doctors were unable to reattach the thumb.

Charles Smith, 30, of Lakeland, Florida, was charged with aggravated battery.

It all began, Gibson said, because he changed his mind about the haircut.

"I looked into his eyes. He didn't look normal," said Gibson, 47, an unemployed cook. "He looked all hyped up like he was high. I told him, 'That's OK,

I'll get my hair cut by somebody else.' That's when he revolted."

Gibson said Smith grabbed a straight razor and demanded the \$5. Gibson refused, and the two began fighting.

"I grabbed him to keep him from cutting me," Gibson said. "When he bit down on me, all I was thinking about was that razor. If I didn't hold him, he would put three or four slices in my face."

MY DAUGHTER Zehavit, aged seven, has been learning G-mesals at school for the first time. She has been studying avidly and clearly understands the subject matter.

The other day, she asked me for pocket money. As she put it into her money box, she said to the money (in Hebrew): "Be fruitful and multiply and fill my money box!"

Maurice Steinberg

مكة من الامم

Wooing the center

YOSEF GOELL

THE central feature of the political scene since the 1977 elections has been the balance between left and right. This balance has given the religious parties great leverage in coalition-making.

A parallel development has been the growth of a significant political center among an electorate disenchanted, not to say repelled, by both major parties. It is this center vote that has determined the outcome of recent elections.

In 1977, the Democratic Movement for Change won 15 seats — unprecedented for a new party. The DMC has since fragmented and disappeared, but the center phenomenon continues.

In exit polls following the 1992 election, many voters admitted that they were torn between the anti-establishment, "clean politics" image shared by the left-wing Meretz and the right-wing Tsomet parties.

When election time comes around Labor and the Likud put on their centerist masks in the hope of wooing the moderate vote. In next year's election, slated for November 1996 (with the direct election of the prime minister), these voters will be more important than ever.

Yet it will be very difficult for Labor and the Likud to masquerade as centerist parties; the Oslo process, and the currently stalled talks with the Syrians on the Golan, have driven them away from consensus and toward the extremes.

The large centerist electoral prize constitutes a major attraction for new parties. As the present election year begins, these include David Levy's personal-cum-ethnic party — primarily a breakaway from the Likud; the ex-Soviet immigrant party being organized by

Natan Sharansky; and the Third Way, which is made up largely of former Labor hawks who despair that their party has been taken over by extreme doves, and that party leader Yitzhak Rabin has defected to the side of the Peresite doves.

IT IS impossible at this early stage to predict how any of these lists will fare in the elections.

David Levy's and the ex-Soviet immigrants' party each speaks to a

Times are changing, and many voters are looking for something new

sizeable but clearly defined segment of the electorate — the disaffected lower-income North Africans, and newcomers from the former Soviet Union respectively.

The Third Way is perhaps the most intriguing of the new groups, because so much of it is reminiscent of the DMC. One possible lesson of the meteoric rise and fall of the DMC is that all such attempts are doomed to failure.

But it is just as reasonable to argue that the DMC's initial success shows the potential for major change. The lesson could be that, if once you try and fail, well then try, try again.

The Third Way's major asset is the chord it seems to have struck among the electoral center, a chord of consternation over the failure of the Oslo process to work out as promised by Rabin and Peres; and over the government's frenzied rush to sink ever deeper into its quagmire. But there is

equal apprehension over the Likud's failure, under Benjamin Netanyahu, to offer any persuasive alternative.

To this, one must add the growing fear among the large centerist majority that both Labor and the Likud, driven by their respective extremist coalition partners, could drive the country over the precipice into a perilous political schism.

The Third Way's major drawback is its lack of an attractive vote winner — especially important in this age of personal politics and TV campaigning. It would be hard to argue that either former chief of staff Dan Shomron or Yoni Kipur War hero Avigdor Kahalani fits the bill.

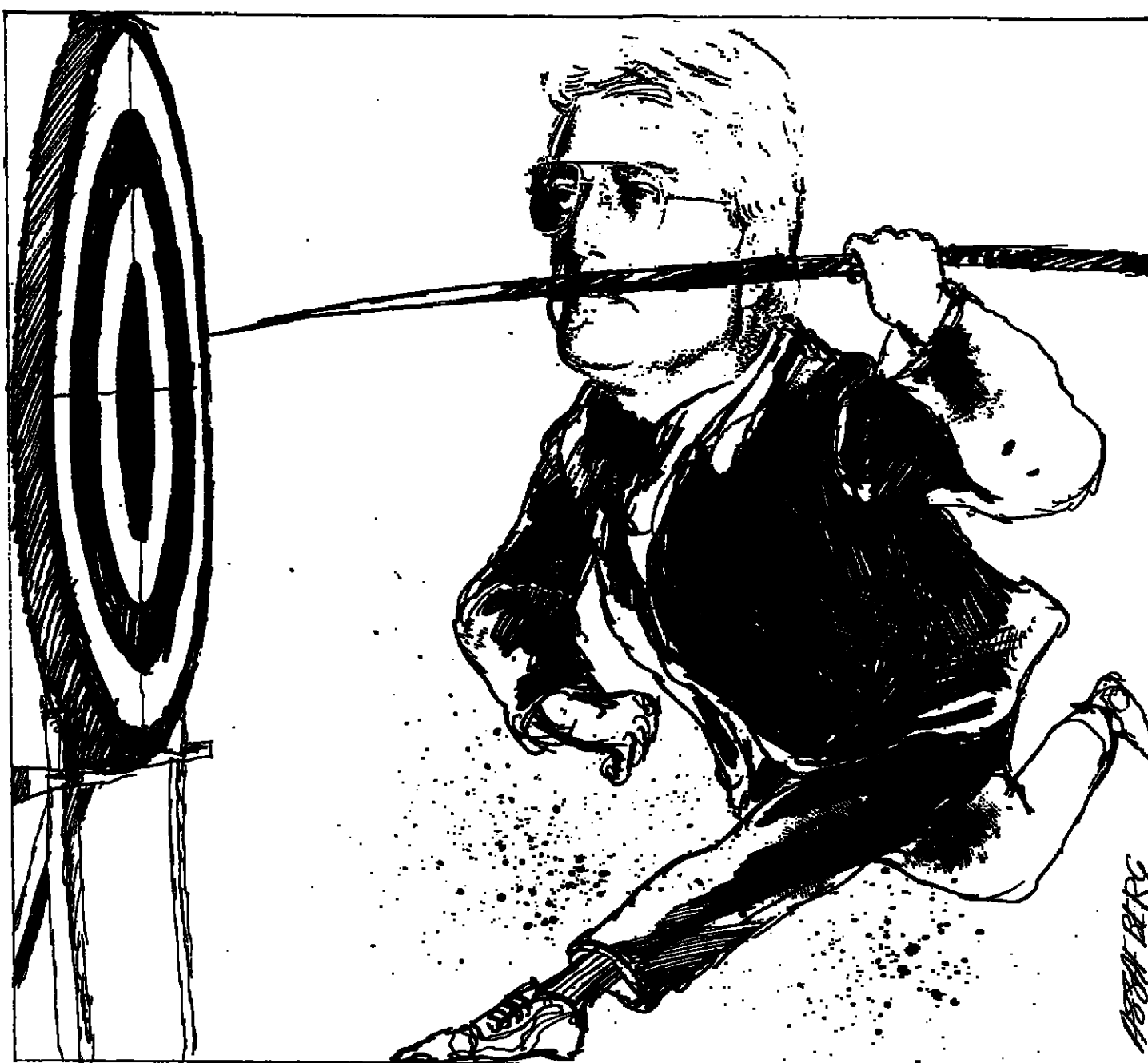
Finding such a charismatic standard bearer is all the more essential with the advent of the popular election of the prime minister. It will be essential for any party with the Third Way's pretensions to run a candidate for prime minister, to prevent either Rabin or Netanyahu from winning in the first round.

Is it all merely a repeat of the DMC chimera? Possibly, but not necessarily. We are living in an era in which a total upstart like Haim Ramon won the Histadrut election last year, after only a few months' time to organize, taking trade union power away from Labor after 74 years.

Times are a-changing, and many voters are looking for something new.

Most intriguing of all is the thought that the Third Way, David Levy and Sharansky's immigrants could together win enough seats to equal the religious bloc, then team up immediately after the elections to change the face of national politics.

The writer comments on public affairs.



Levy's done with staying home

ALLAN E. SHAPIRO

DON'T write off David Levy. He's done his homework. He knows that, with the possible exception of the hardi Sephardi party Shas, ethnic factions don't get very far in Israeli politics.

He is no Aharon Abuhatzira, whose now-defunct Tami faction raised the flag of social protest in the name of the Sephardi underclass.

The social strata whose origins lie in the mass immigration from North Africa in the early 1950s have undergone a radical transformation in the Sephardi thrust into middle-class status.

Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer started his political career as general secretary of Tami, whose aim was upward mobility for immigrants from Islamic countries. The mobility Ben-Eliezer is most associated with today is the sort symbolized by the new Kfar Shmaryahu interchange.

Even today, however, important elements within the Sephardi community are not satisfied that they are going anywhere. On the whole, impressive achievements in income and education have not removed basic social cleavages. Indeed, gaps have widened, in many cases as the result of the even greater upward movement of more established sectors.

Most significant from the political point of view, this group still sees itself as excluded from the centers of power.

That is where Levy's personal life story and the political forces he represents come together.

Levy was foreign minister and deputy prime minister in the Shamir government. The Madrid Conference, which marked the critical launch of the peace process, was called by its American and Russian sponsors at the foreign minister level. Shamir decided to attend personally as head of the Israeli delegation. Levy stayed home.

That is where Levy's new political movement was conceived, if not born. His must be a movement that doesn't stay home. Its test for survival is its ability to overcome its ethnic origins and to become a

national movement, with influence at the centers of national power.

There was a touch of humor in the recent televised interview with Avigdor Kahalani, Third Way leader and Labor Party rebel. Asked if he was in line for the No. 2 spot in Levy's new party, Kahalani, who is of Yemenite extraction, replied with a broad smile

last Knesset elections, indicates that there is no unanimity in the Levy camp on these questions.

Levy's chances of moving from ethnic to national political power may depend on his ability to attract the support of non-Sephardi sectors that also feel locked out of the centers of power.

These form floating blocks of

The challenge: overcoming his movement's ethnic origins. The goal: a thrust toward the centers of power

that he assumed Levy wanted a No. 2 of another sort.

THE THRUST toward the centers of power explains Levy's present emphasis on peace process policy, leaving the social issues to a later stage of the electoral battle. His recent pronouncements in matters of foreign and defense policy show a double emphasis. On the one hand, there is the hard line that Levy espoused in the national unity government, in his reservations over the Shamir-Rabin peace initiative. Levy keeps the faith with his Archie Bunker, hard-hat constituency.

On the other hand, there is a readiness to compromise. Levy has expressed his explicit rejection of the notion that peace with Syria can be achieved without a significant withdrawal on the Golan. He has also voiced implicit acceptance of the Oslo agreement. Unlike some Likud leaders such as Benny Begin, Levy recognizes Yasser Arafat as the Palestinian leader with whom Israel must negotiate.

Clearly there are hard choices involved in the definition of the Levy position on the peace process and on the electoral strategy on home-front social issues. The reported resignation of Dr. Yairiv Ben-Eliezer, Levy's communications adviser, who had orchestrated Rafael Eitan's campaign in the

voters, untied to either of the two major parties. In a market-oriented environment, the task of the political entrepreneur is to serve as a catalyst who can convert the non-aligned into a potent political force.

Paradoxically, these are also the groups whose relationship with Levy's core constituency is at best problematical. The mass of recent Russian immigrants, for example,

have yet to find a political home. However, they compete with the Sephardi sector, and sociologists consider their relatively greater success in climbing the social ladder a prime cause for Sephardi feelings of discrimination.

Even more problematical for Levy is the Arab sector. Again, this is a floating electoral block that is up for grabs and receptive to the Levy message of social protest. However, the Sephardi climb upwards has, to some degree, been on the backs of the Arabs. Relations between the two groups have a certain resemblance to those in pre-independence Algeria between the so-called *pie-noirs*, the poor French settlers, and the native Algerian Moslems.

Sephardim, the recent Russian immigrants, and Israeli Arabs — these are the groups that feel locked out from the centers of power. They neither support the government nor take to the street to demonstrate against it.

Numerically, they hold the balance of power in next year's elections.

The writer is a legal and political commentator.

Israel's eastern borders

AMOS PERLMUTTER

fundamentalists and nationalists, will be the eventual rulers and constitute the most potent force even if, as is likely, they lose in the poorly "Arafat-sponsored" elections.

As president of a Palestinian state, Arafat will not bring an end to terror, something he is currently unwilling or unable to do.

The original Oslo agreement has already been violated by the Palestinian Authority in several critical political and strategic areas. Oslo provided that there would only be a "blue" police force for the Palestinians, not an army. Arafat's PLO

What is the real meaning of Oslo? No Israeli political leader has ever given an answer

terrorists and graduates from Israeli prisons run several security services. The PA has also violated Oslo by establishing elements of sovereignty in Jerusalem.

IN FACT, the whole of the original Oslo agreement has been revised in the PA's favor. So there's no reason to think the Palestinians will not violate Oslo 2 with equal impunity.

Arafat will attempt to establish an independent state with rights over water, boundaries, and other issues. What will Israel's answer be if Arafat flatly declares a state and calls for a total IDF withdrawal?

So far, Shimon Peres, Oslo's founder and leading advocate, has had to swallow quite a few undigestible frogs. Terror has resumed with ferocity after a small lull, and terrorist bombings are now protected by the PA.

Oslo 2 is rife with the possibility of increased violence. No Palestinian leader will accept the Rabin-Peres permanent frontiers and arrangements, certainly not on

borders, Jerusalem, the right of return, and settlements. No Palestinian state will accept the loss of 20 percent of its territory, no capital in east Jerusalem, no army, and no right of return.

A sovereign Palestinian state has the right to do anything it desires, including violating the third and final Oslo arrangements between Israel and Palestine.

The Israeli negotiators are completely and correctly obsessed with Palestinian terror from territories from which the IDF withdraws. This is indeed a political-strategic concern, but a short-sighted grand strategic solution. Negotiations with the PLO must project beyond terrorism. If Palestine sticks like a thorn between Jordan and Israel, joint Jordan-Israel military cooperation is all but impossible.

The Israeli political and strategic failure inherent in Oslo lies in ignoring a number of obstacles, including the fact that, in contradistinction to Israel, a sovereign state with clearly defined political and strategic purposes, the Palestinian community for now remains an entity without clearly defined goals or territorial boundaries.

Does Oslo mean the end of Israeli-Palestinian conflict, an Arafat state minus Jerusalem and 20 percent of its land, or a Hamas and radical maxi-state? No Israeli political leader has ever given an answer.

The whole Oslo process ignored regional and Israel's own strategic purposes. To negotiate over the future of a Palestinian entity is an insufficient political and strategic enterprise; it impairs Israel's ability to make critical strategic alliances.

Failure to define Israel's eastern borders now amounts to a political misdeed. As it stands, Oslo remains a prescription for the next Israeli-Palestinian war, and possibly an all-out Arab-Israeli conflict.

The writer, a political scientist, is a fellow of Tel Aviv University's Joffe Center and the Begin-Sadat Center at Bar-Ilan University.

The very waters of life, according to the Jewish, Christian and Muslim traditions, are said to flow from the Holy Land of the ancient Middle East region. Yet today's politicians are charting a perilous course: their policies could bury the area under desert sand and concrete, shatter hopes for lasting peace, and pose a threat far beyond the immediate reality. Our precious water inheritance is in danger of being squandered, with dire implications for the world at large.

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Handwritten signature: *Yitzhak Rabin*

The Members of the Ashkelon Excavations The Leon Levy Expedition

deeply mourn the loss of

Professor

BENJAMIN MAZAR

and extend sincere condolences to his family.

The Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations Harvard University

mourns the passing of

Professor BENJAMIN MAZAR

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family.

Lawrence E. Stager
Frank Moore Cross
Peter Machinist

The Director, Officers and Trustees of the W. F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research

mourn the loss of their good friend and colleague

Professor

BENJAMIN MAZAR

and extend their deepest sympathy to the family.

The President, Officers and Trustees of the American Schools of Oriental Research

mourn the passing of their good friend and colleague

Professor

BENJAMIN MAZAR

and extend sincere condolences to his family

DANNY FREI דני פריי

Mara, together with the Frei and Harris families,
cannot find words appropriate to express
their gratitude to relatives and friends
who offered support after their terrible loss.

In particular, we are indebted to
the people of Michmas and News Datacom,
the staff at Hadassah,
the Chevra Kadisha, the Army and the Police.

ADEL BEIK TURUJMAN

passed away peacefully on Thursday morning.

Sadly missed by his loving wife: **Nimat**
His sons: **Dr. Saleh Hassan**
His daughter: **Dr. Nabila**

May his soul rest in peace.

The family will receive condolence visits
from Friday evening to Sunday evening at their residence
in Beit Hanina, Freij Building, Tel. 02-853979.

The unveiling of the headstone in memory of our beloved **ERNEST BLANK**

Caracas, Venezuela - New York, USA
will take place at the Hayarkon cemetery
on Friday, September 22, 1995 at 11 a.m.

Blank and Morag families

We mourn the loss of the head of our family **BEN ZUSSMAN** בן זוסמן

of Denver, Colorado

Arrival from the U.S. today, for *Kevurah* in Tiberias, Erev Shabbat.
Mourners will return to the U.S. on Motza'ei Shabbat,
1 a.m. flight for Shiva in Denver.

The Zussman Family
Denver / Jerusalem

The unveiling ceremony in memory of the late **Rabbi MEIR FRYDMAN**

will take place on Tuesday, September 19, 1995,
at 4:30 p.m.

We shall meet at the gate of
the Har Hamenuhot Cemetery, Jerusalem.
The Family



AMIT WOMEN

mourns the passing of

FRIEDA KUFELD פרידה קופלד

former Honorary National President

and extends sincere condolences to the entire family

Shoshannah Rick
Chairwoman Israel Executive

Dr. Ami Zeevi
Director General

Evelyn Blacher
National President AMIT

With deep sorrow, we announce the loss of
our beloved

LOTTE KALISKI

Mourning by:
Mia and Heinz Kroch and family

Pope: Nuclear tests should be banned

YAOUNDE, Cameroon (AP) — Pope John Paul II appealed yesterday for a ban on nuclear arms testing, but withheld direct condemnation of France's decision to resume tests in the South Pacific.

Speaking to reporters at the beginning of a six-day African trip, the pontiff offered his most direct comments on the international dispute over the French testing at Mururoa.

"They need to be stopped, at least controlled," the pope said before arriving in Cameroon, the first stop in a three-nation trip that includes the pope's first visit to post-apartheid South Africa. But when pressed about France's recent tests, he added: "France has its reasons. We should not give too much importance to these tests."

The pope said his main hope is for a "ban on the use of nuclear arms."

The high point of the six-day trip that began yesterday will also be one of the milestones of the pontiff's 17-year reign: kissing the ground in South Africa at the beginning of a weekend stop there.

The pope refused to visit South Africa while it was under white-minority rule, which ended last year. A storm in 1988 forced the papal plane to make an emergency landing in South Africa, but the pope refused to offer the kiss that traditionally marks a first-time visit.

The pope's 67th foreign trip ends in Kenya next week.



Pope John Paul II is greeted by bishops from Africa at the start of his three-day visit to Cameroon yesterday. (Reuters)

Belarus regrets killing balloonists, holds 2 Americans

MINSK, Belarus (AP) — Belarusian officials tried yesterday to explain why two American balloonists were shot down and killed during an international race, but continued to detain two other American pilots.

"A tragedy has occurred and to a certain extent, we are to blame," First Deputy Foreign Minister Valery Tzepakalo told a news conference.

Two other American balloonists forced down by Belarusian military on Tuesday night were being held without explanation.

At the White House yesterday, presidential spokesman Mike McCurry complained that even though the Belarus government had promised to cooperate, "we have not received an adequate explanation" of why the balloon was shot down.

"There were two innocent people who lost their lives through

what may have been a tragic mistake, but it seems to be have been more deliberate than that," he said.

"There is some circumstantial evidence that would seem to suggest that it was not necessarily a tragic mistake," McCurry said. "We're trying to get to the bottom of that now."

The slain men, Alan Fraenkel, 55, and John Stuart Jervis, 68, were over rural, western Belarus in the balloon D-Caribbean Tuesday when a Belarusian helicopter gunship opened fire from 100 meters away. They and their balloon plunged 2,300 meters to the forest floor.

"There was a big boom, and then half a minute later it was all over," a local farmer told Russian television. Nearby, scraps of gray balloon fabric and broken radio equipment lay strewn across the forest floor.

FBI nabs child porn dealers

WASHINGTON (AP) — The FBI made at least a dozen arrests and searched 120 homes across the United States after a two-year investigation into the use of the nation's largest computer network to distribute child pornography and arrange sex with children.

The probe monitored the America Online network to catch suspects distributing child pornography and arranging sex with children. At least 12 people were arrested and more arrests are expected from the search of more than 120 homes since August 22, the FBI said.

"It's an ongoing investigation," Larry Foust, an FBI spokesman in Baltimore, said yesterday.

The Wednesday raids marked the first time federal agents investigated the misuse of such networks for exchanging typed conversation and other material from computer to computer.

"We are not going to permit exciting new technology to be misused to exploit and injure children," Attorney General Janet Reno said.

US child protection laws make it a crime to create, possess or disseminate child pornography. Violators face up to 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

The raids were conducted in 57 of the nation's 94 federal districts, according to the FBI, concentrating on the East Coast.

The Justice Department said at least a dozen arrests had already been made and 120 homes searched, but that many more arrests were expected. Cities involved include Miami, New York, Dallas and Newark, New Jersey. The FBI refused to release any further details.

Women ink pact after compromise

BEIJING (Reuters) — An 11th-hour compromise on sexual freedom this morning broke a deadlock that had bogged down a 10-year blueprint on women's rights at the world women's conference.

The breakthrough enabled proponents and opponents of new sexual rights to claim victory on the Platform for Action and its shorter preamble, the Beijing Declaration.

Compromise was won in the final hours of the UN Fourth World Conference on Women when conservative Islamic nations agreed to drop a phrase on cultural differences that opponents said could undermine or weaken the universal nature of human rights in the document, a UN official said.

For its part, a European Union bloc gave up a demand to enshrine sexual freedoms in the

declaration, which is regarded by delegates as a vital rallying cry for sexual equality and women's rights into the next century, delegates said.

Signatories agree to "ensure the full enjoyment by women and girls of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and take effective action against violations of those rights and freedoms," the compromise preamble says.

Simpson prosecution nears end

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The O.J. Simpson judge told fatigued jurors yesterday that the prosecution would end its rebuttal case within days — then ordered a lengthy recess so lawyers could prepare for a scientific witness.

"I'm hoping to complete the presentation of the prosecution's rebuttal case by either tomorrow or Monday. All right, so these will be probably the last three or four witnesses we will be presenting for the prosecution's case," Judge Lance Ito told jurors.

Late Wednesday, the defense was turned back by an appeals court in its bid to recall retired Detective Mark Fuhrman.

The appellate decision left the defense with none of its desired remedies for dealing with Fuhrman's refusal to answer defense questions about his racist remarks in taped interviews. On the stand, Fuhrman had lied about making such remarks.

Defense lawyers wanted him back on the stand to testify about why he lied and suggest that Fuhrman was a racist capable of framing Simpson, who is black.

They argued that being denied a chance to cross-examine Fuhrman about racist statements could result in reversal should Simpson be convicted.

WORLD BRIEFS

Big quake shakes Mexico City

MEXICO CITY (Reuters) — A major earthquake spread panic through Mexico City yesterday and unconfirmed radio reports said two people had died, though there was apparently no serious damage.

The tremor, which sent frightened people fleeing into the streets, came only days before the anniversary of a 1985 earthquake that killed at least 10,000 people.

The US Geological Survey in Golden, Colorado estimated yesterday's quake at 7.2 on the Richter scale, making it a major shock for this city of 20 million people but not the "big one" geologists have been predicting for this decade.

Radio reports said a young schoolgirl died of fright and a man was electrocuted by a falling power line but police were not immediately able to confirm either case.

Security tightened after grenade attack

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia's top prosecutor launched a criminal investigation yesterday into what it called a "terrorist" grenade attack a day earlier on the US Embassy.

As police scoured the city for the attacker, security guards outside the embassy in central Moscow checked cars for bombs. Security also was tightened at US consulates in Vladivostok, St. Petersburg and Yekaterinburg.

Despite the increased security, the embassy and the modern annex behind it were open for business, and a visit by Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott went ahead as planned.

Argentina favors extradition of Priebe

ROME (AP) — Argentina's vice president pledged yesterday that his government would make sure an accused war criminal makes it to Italy if an Argentine court orders extradition.

Erich Priebe, a former SS captain, is accused of participating in the 1944 reprisal massacre of 335 civilians in German-occupied Rome.

Living in the southwestern Argentine city of Bariloche, he was released after 14 months of house arrest three weeks ago by an appeals court. On September 1, Argentina's chief prosecutor asked the Supreme Court to overturn the ruling.

"We hope that the [Supreme Court's ruling] will be positive and we will put him on a plane and send him here," said Vice President Carlos Ruckauf after meeting government and business officials.

Saddam seeks defector's alleged money

CAIRO (AP) — Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein has sent his finance minister to three Arab countries to try to recover money believed controlled by Saddam's son-in-law, who defected to Jordan last month, Iraqi sources said yesterday.

Iraqi officials have repeatedly accused Lt. Gen. Hussein Kamel Majid of fleeing Iraq with government funds. Saddam himself said he stole "millions from the Iraqi people," and the finance minister, Ahmed Hussein Khudair, put the figure at \$8 billion.

Majid, who took refuge in Amman, has said nothing about the money, and there was no way to confirm the reports.

NEWS IN FOCUS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1995

9

Feiglin & Co. hit the big time

For a group that fizzled out nearly two years ago, Zo Artzenu and its leader are now household words, Herb Keinon reports

WHEN Moshe Feiglin strode into a crowd of demonstrators Wednesday night in Jerusalem, his hands tied above his head to illustrate passive resistance, he was immediately recognized and applauded.

When Feiglin wanted to talk, much of the crowd quietened down to let him speak. When he joined a number of other people wading into the road to stop traffic, he was immediately singled out by the police and arrested.

In a matter of months Feiglin has gone from being the head of a firm that specializes in cleaning windows on high-rise buildings to being the leader of a protest movement that has President Weizman and Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz calling on citizens not to support it.

Feiglin, 33, a father of four and reserve officer in the Engineering Corps, has joined Nadia Matar, head of the Women in Green and one of the organizers of the protest on Givat Hadagan in Efrat, as a protest leader who in a relatively short period has traveled a trajectory from complete anonymity to becoming a household name.

And the same is true of Feiglin's movement.

Two months ago only those familiar with the settlement movement would have remembered Zo Artzenu. But two days ago every driver in the country was wondering whether he would be stuck in traffic because of the group's activities.

Zo Artzenu first burst into the headlines in December 1993 with "Operation Double," the stated goal being to set up dozens of new settlements on land near existing ones. Within two months the operation and the organization were largely forgotten.

Until last July, that's when a conference was held in Ariel to plan the blocking of roads the following week. The roads were duly blocked, and Zo Artzenu has since become a prominent—if not the most prominent—player in the antigovernment campaign.

"The main thing we learned from Operation Double," said Feiglin, who along with Shmuel Sackett made up the two remaining leaders from the group's pre-



Unlike Gush Emunim, Zo Artzenu acts within the Green Line, like this protest near the PM's office. (Brian Hendler)

vious reincarnation, "is to be completely independent of any institutions or political party. The public appreciates this. It recognizes that you have no hidden agenda."

AFTER OPERATION Double, Zo Artzenu activists accused the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza of torpedoing the campaign. Hebrew University sociologist Moshe Lissak said this was largely due to organizational competition, as well as a change in the manner the settlement movement has always confronted the government.

"Gush Emunim never tried to move the struggle from the territories to inside the Green Line," Lissak said, maintaining that the movement did not want to antagonize or inconvenience the country whose support it was courting. "Gush Emunim worked back then, and the settlement council works in a similar way today, by dealing with politicians, by lob-

bing Knesset members," Lissak said. Zo Artzenu burst on the scene when it appeared that this tactic wasn't working.

As to whether the group's style antagonizes the public, a Mutagen survey conducted for *Ma'ariv* after the road blockades last month showed that 30% of the public feel the action strengthened their support for the positions of the right, 28% said their support weakened, and 39% said there was no change.

"We are not trying to be nice," Feiglin said. "Those people who get annoyed must realize it is annoying for us to have 150,000 Jews turned over to the mercy of terrorists. They say that there have to be sacrifices for peace, so nothing will happen if people have to sit in their cars for a few minutes."

"For two years we played by the rules," said Feiglin. "People would go to demonstrate, and would always ask for permission. There would be huge demonstrations, and Rabin would say we

don't move him. The dogs barked, and the caravan continued moving. We decided to stop being propellers."

Feiglin said that while the government can effectively deal with huge rallies by ignoring them or downplaying the number of participants, and while it can effectively combat a violent underground, it is stuck when dealing with passive resistance by people who publicly declare a willingness to break the law.

GADI WOLFSFELD, a political science professor at the Hebrew University who has written a book on Israeli protest movements, said that in cases like this the wisest path for the government "is to keep the use of force at a minimum. Not to overreact,

not to turn them into victims or martyrs."

Rather, Wolfsfeld said, it makes more sense from the government's point of view to increase the legal price people will have to pay by having swift trials and putting people in jail for crimes.

"As the cost goes up for participants," he said, "fewer and fewer people will be willing to pay. It is one thing to spend a night in jail, anyone can spend one night in jail, and another thing to get a three- or six-month sentence. I am not sure how many people are willing to pay this price."

Zo Artzenu activists disagree, saying that they have the foot soldiers willing to make the necessary sacrifices. "Our strength is (Continued on Page 16)

Everyone has an opinion when it comes to Oslo

Accord supporters point to Gaza's higher quality of life, while detractors tally up terror victims, Jon Immanuel writes

TWO years after Rabin grimaced and shook hands with Arafat, both supporters and opponents of the Oslo accords have good reason to say "we told you so." But they are measuring success and failure by different scales.

The most obvious fact is that a lot more Israelis have been killed during the two years following Oslo than were killed in the two years preceding it.

Peace Watch, a monitoring group, wrote this week that casualties are up 73%, with 149 victims in the two years after Oslo compared to 86 in the two years before. Casualties within the Green Line and Jerusalem were up almost 300%, 90 compared with 32.

The attacks have been carried out by a small number of Islamic radical suicide bombers rather than a large number of stabbers, bomb-throwers, and stone-throwers from various groups, but they enjoyed substantial support.

A not-yet published Palestinian poll conducted this month and last puts support for attacks against civilians within the Green Line at 20%. This is high, but down from the 32% who supported such attacks—including suicide bombings—four months ago. Since the Palestinian opposition to Oslo hovers around 30%, this means many opponents are now reducing their support for attacks inside the Green Line, which account for 60% of the Israeli deaths.

Nevertheless, as redeployment from Palestinian towns approaches, it should be noted that support for attacks against settlers is about 80% in the latest poll and 70% against IDF targets, sources at the Palestinian Studies and Research Center in Nablus said.

Against these grim figures, Oslo supporters would point to Gaza's growing degree of normalcy. The decline of Hamas influence in social as well as political life and the improvement in economic performance compared with the situation on the first anniversary are positive steps, even if they do little

to help Israelis feel any positive change in their own lives.

Cooperation in economic matters is what Oslo was mostly about, and that is still low. It is slightly higher in security matters.

The crucial aspect of security cooperation is to prevent terror attacks, about which it is difficult to establish firm facts, other than from comments by Israeli intelligence officials pointing to an improvement.

The other issue is extradition, which affirms Israel's right to punish those who kill its citizens.

The PA has not transferred a single killer, and it is unlikely that anyone connected with the Oslo-Cairo agreements seriously expected them to do so.

According to one of Oslo's framers, the extradition articles in the Cairo agreement are a sleight of hand. The problem was really: "How was it possible to get the PA to punish terrorists?"

Had Israel simply demanded their imprisonment, Palestinian pride would have found ways to keep them out of jail. Demanding that they transfer them to Israel gave PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat the face-saving opportunity to jail them in apparent defiance of Israeli demands. In addition, he got a face-saving clause thrown in allowing Palestinians to extradite non-Israelis.

The agreement is a jalousy put together by engineers with different aims. It is hardly capable of carrying the heavy baggage of an intractable ethnic conflict out of the Middle East sandtrap. But, wonder of wonders, it moves, sometimes even forward, and it is picking up more passengers.

Energy Minister Gonen Segal voted into the Knesset on behalf of a party approving the transfer of all Palestinians—is negotiating energy cooperation with the PA.

Some of Oslo's most critical Palestinian opponents, Abbas Zaki, Abu Ali Shabheen and Mahmoud Darwish, are crossing into Gaza and Jericho to try the ride themselves.

Ofir Frankel, practical engineer, teaches technology, mechanics and computers at the Jerusalem Youth Center.



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An Egyptian view of 'the war between wars'

According to a local researcher, the War of Attrition with Egypt was a turning point for our southern neighbors that is still felt today, Steve Rodan writes

DON'T expect any parades or ceremonies. The tears will be shed in private.

But 25 years ago, the War of Attrition between Egypt and Israel ended.

For some historians, it was the end to the 1967 Six Day War. To others, it was the prelude to the Egyptian and Syrian invasion of Yom Kippur 1973.

To Mustapha Kabha, the war marked a turning point for Egypt that is still being felt today.

The 32-year-old Kabha has just published a book *War of Attrition: As Reflected by Egyptian Sources* (published by Tel Aviv University and the Israel Galili Institute) in which for the first time leading Egyptian figures recall the war to an Israeli researcher.

For the late Egyptian president Gamal Abdul Nasser, the war represented an attempt to rebuild his image. "Nasser aimed at canceling the Israeli achievements of the Six Day War," said Kabha, who hails from the village of Umm el-Kataf in the Wadi Ara district.

"He wanted to restore the honor lost in the war as well as restore his image as head of the Third World."

Kabha says he found "huge contradictions" between the Israeli and Egyptian versions of the war, including when Israel ended its long-range bombings in Egypt. The bombings, he said, were part of a failed Israeli attempt to topple Nasser.

"If anything," Kabha says, "it

led to a closing of the ranks. In 1968, during a lull in the war, students demonstrated to renew Egyptian bombings of the Sinai."

Kabha's book is part of his master's thesis and the fourth he has written. Among his other works are an account of the 1936 Arab revolt in Palestine, a text-book and an Arabic translation of Shimon Peres's book, *The New Middle East*.

Kabha said the 1967 war changed Nasser's outlook. He ended his revolutionary rhetoric against the conservative regimes in the Gulf and instead began to cultivate such countries as Saudi Arabia for aid.

The Egyptian president's efforts paid off. In 1969, a pro-Nasserist regime emerged in Sudan. That year, Muammar Gaddafi seized power in Libya. But the war with Israel did not go Nasser's way. Israeli pilots freely roamed the skies of Egypt, scoring long-range strikes deep in its territory.

The Soviet Union, alarmed at the possibility that the Egyptian military could simply crumble, sent its pilots to defend against Israeli air strikes.

Moscow, he said, provided four times more weapons to Egypt during the war than in the 12 previous years. This included two bombers that helped deter Israeli attacks.

Senior Egyptian commanders told the author that they were pleased with the performance of their army. For one thing, they said, the Egyptians didn't flee as



Moshe Dayan and David Elazar (with binoculars) during the War of Attrition on the Suez Canal: The war represented Egyptian president Gamal Abdul Nasser's attempt to rebuild his image, says author Mustapha Kabha. (David Rubinger)

they had during the Six Day War.

Kabha says much had to do with Nasser. His humiliating defeat by Israel in 1967 sobered the Egyptian president and he began to listen to others. Nasser appointed Gen. Mohammed Fawzi as chief of staff and began to take a much more active interest in the military.

At the same time, Kabha says, Nasser toned down official pro-

paganda and began to insert more truth into news broadcasts. He introduced reforms in education and required all army recruits to complete high school.

In Kabha's interview, Fawzi said the War of Attrition bolstered his confidence.

"The Egyptians see the War of Attrition as a war in which their soldiers fought well, and in which they were enthusiastic," Kabha

says. "Fawzi said his goal in the war wasn't revenge against Israel but first to repair his soldiers' poor self-image."

"The Egyptian achievement in the 1973 war would not have been possible were it not for the War of Attrition."

Kabha stresses that this was not a uniform view. Supporters of president Anwar Sadat, who succeeded Nasser in 1970, regard the

War of Attrition as being destructive. Kabha interviewed Abdel Aziz Ramadan, Sadat's historian, who wrote a book entitled *Shattering of Gods*.

"Ramadan thought the war was horrible," Kabha says. "He said that this was an attempt by Nasser to divert public attention from the 1967 defeat. He saw the Egyptian army as the one that was exhausted rather

than Israel's."

Kabha says Sadat changed Nasser's policy regarding the war. Nasser agreed to a cease-fire worked out by the US, but chief of staff Fawzi says the president intended to maintain it for only three months.

After he succeeded Nasser, Sadat observed the cease-fire for more than three years while he quietly prepared for a major war.

The result is that Nasser supporters have for years accused Sadat of losing the momentum of the War of Attrition. They said Israel used the cease-fire to reinforce its defenses against the punishing blows of Egyptian artillery.

But Sadat soon removed Nasser's people. Fawzi was imprisoned, Mohammed Heikal fled Egypt.

Kabha recalls his meeting with Fawzi years after his release from prison by the current president, Hosni Mubarak.

"I saw the difference between his pictures in the army, when he was beefy, and after jail, when he was extremely thin and old."

Meeting Heikal, Kabha says, was much harder. The former Egyptian propagandist remains extremely anti-Israel, even to Arab citizens.

"I ran after Heikal for three years until he agreed to be interviewed," Kabha says. "I saw him at a symposium and through a Palestinian colleague I introduced myself and interviewed him on the spot."

Today, Kabha says, Mubarak is restoring the role of Nasser in Egypt.

He has allowed many old Nasserists to return to the country and reenter public life where they have been placed in key positions in the official media.

As Kabha sees it, Mubarak is thinking of the future. "He thinks that a coalition of Nasserists and his party is the only bloc that could stop fundamentalism in Egypt," he says.

The most desirable man for Labor plays hard to get

THE WEEK THAT WAS
MICHAEL YUDELMAN

TO be or not to be... back in Labor by election time? That is the question MK Haim Ramon will have to answer soon.

Ramon meanwhile is playing hard to get - a tactic that assumes someone really wants him anyway.

"Some people," he pouted, "have not learned their lesson and are gambling on my return to the party." However, lest anyone should mistakenly get the impression he's not interested, his message to Labor is always double.

"I hope they don't again make the same mistake they did when they bet I would not leave Labor to run against it for the Histadrut."

Translation: I will come back, but there's a heavy price this time.

"Time is right. Legally, Ramon has until mid-November to renew his party membership or forfeit the right to be a candidate. So what does he want, exactly? The question is getting some airing in Labor corridors, but so is the question of what is available anyway that might entice the prodigal back to his heritage."

Whatever the critics say regarding his destruction of the Histadrut, there is no denying that Ramon proved himself a formidable winner and man of action, and only an extremely prestigious position - nothing less than a senior portfolio - would seem appropriate.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin clearly would love to see Ramon come home. But he can scarcely

shuffle a minister aside for Ramon at this late stage.

However, hint senior Labor pundits, someone has to take on the very high-profile task of running the governing party's tough election campaign.

Rabin thinks Ramon is by far the best candidate for the job. He is telegenic and charismatic, yet devious - a mean enough son-of-a-bitch to match anything the Likud can field.

FOX HUNT

The issue of election campaign manager has introduced Ramon as the fox in Labor's chicken coop.

Housing Minister Binyamin "Fuad" Ben-Eliezer wants Rabin to get the matter decided quickly, while Ramon is still playing catch me, catch me not. Fuad, spurred by a keen sense of duty, would of

course be delighted to aid the prime minister in this difficult task by making himself readily available, etc., etc.

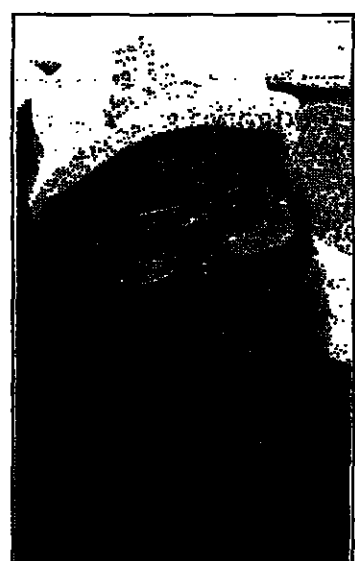
This tiresome Ramon business has come as a nasty shock to Fuad, who until now believed himself the ideal man and without a rival for the job.

Interior Minister Ehud Barak may not have entirely agreed, but Fuad was sure he could fend off the wet-behind-the-ears new boy with the one hand that wasn't tied behind his back.

Just to make sure, Fuad has been off slumming it as a man of the people - a low-income quarter, an Arab village, a settlement, a new intersection, the sort of thing that one suddenly notices around election time. This week it was Jaffa, Hatikva Quarter and Kfar Shalem.

The strategic point here, lest anyone has forgotten, is that Fuad has a direct line to Sephardi voters, a common language with the Arab citizens, and a hawkish viewpoint to spice up the recipe. In addition, his military background puts him on back-slapping army-buddy terms with the settlers. Who could ask for anything more?

Ah, but what about Police Minister Moshe Shalom? And Labor Secretary-General Nissim Zivli? Now that Ramon is being sketched into the picture, the



Yosef Azran shouldn't expect any more flowers from David Levy. (Kilnik)

true image of a campaign manager looks even more blurred. Before anyone can win an election for Rabin, it seems he will have to win Rabin.

THE FEAR

Shas strongman Arye Deri is back with a bombshell - Shas will back David Levy in the elections. And the fear gnawing the Likud is that Shas will vote for Levy in the first round and Rabin

in the second.

This is how it would work. Shas voters will cast one ballot for Shas as a party, and another for Levy as candidate for prime minister. This would assure Shas of five or six mandates and satisfy the voters' rightist urge with a first-round tick for Levy.

Likud leaders are haunted by the suspicion that the Shas people would then flip over to support Rabin against Binyamin Netanyahu in the runoff.

Why Rabin?

Why not? Shas has no problem with Rabin. It wasn't because of him that they left the coalition. Shas spiritual mentor Rabbi Ovadia Yosef gets along just fine with Rabin.

Bibi, on the other hand, poses a slight, er, moral dilemma for Shas. The secular community may have long shrugged off his self-declared adultery on national television in the "sizzling cassette" affair.

But hard-core constituents, as Likud leaders well know, may be even less forgetful than David Levy.

KING FOR A DAY

How sweet to be desirable. Smiling haredim are being courted, wooed and even, they whisper softly, bribed as Labor and Likud activists hunt them down to register for a main party.

Surprising? Consider this: Shas, Agudat Yisrael and Degel Hatorah have no membership poll or census. That means their

supporters can register as Labor or Likud members without violating the law that forbids membership in two parties at the same time.

For example, once a haredi is a registered member of Labor, he can take part in the party primaries and vote for the candidate who enrolled him. But in the Knesset elections all these new "members" vanish and vote for their own parties. No one gets hurt and everybody ends up happy.

That whisper says that main-party politicians have discovered that a small contribution, say NIS 200, helps haredim through the inconvenience of registering as party members.


MATCHMAKERS

Somewhere near the top of the "most desirable" list sits one Yosef Azran. The renegade Shas MK is being feverishly wooed by the Likud and by David Levy.

Azran, a longtime castaway from Shas shores, is so excited by his new-found popularity that he let it slip on Israel Radio's *Another Matter* that he hasn't yet decided whom to favor - but he thinks Bibi should be the next prime minister.

You can stop sending flowers, David.

Oh well, love's labor lost. Rumor has it that Levy's people had already diverted the delivery of flowers from Azran to Deri - a bouquet for declaring his support of the Levy movement.



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The Council of Youth Movements in Israel, Tel. 02-6510212

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Public Health Services

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As in previous years, pupils in primary and junior high schools will receive immunizations as indicated below:

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הקדמת הצדקה

Treaty irons some things, creases others

New realities
take shape as
Jordan and the
PA consider
their pacts
with Israel,
Barry Rubin
reports

THE strengths and limits of Israel-Jordan peace were unmistakable during a historic meeting this week in Amman. The atmosphere was very friendly. Yet, at the same time, the encounter between Jordanians and Israelis would have been impossible without the US umbrella provided by its sponsor, the Washington Institute for Near East Policy.

"When I crossed the bridge [into Jordan]," explained Health Minister Ephraim Sneh, "I realized we had changed the Middle East." For his part, a leading member of Jordan's Parliament, Abd al-Hadi al-Majali, defined this transformation by saying: "We have reached an understanding that peace and dialogue are the only answers to our problems."

In short, the way to deal with problems is quite different from that pursued during the previous half-century, but the differences themselves still exist.

To examine both the continuing difficulties and the new hopes, the Washington Institute was taking about three dozen of its trustees — that is, big donors — on a tour of Turkey, Jordan and Israel. The Amman segment was also sponsored by Jordan's Diplomatic Institute, and took place under the special patronage of Crown Prince Hassan, King Hussein's younger brother and designated successor.

Formally, the meeting's main focus seemed to be on encouraging investment in Jordan and moving toward a regional security system.

But the most interesting discussions, both publicly and privately, concerned the complex relations among Jordanians, Palestinians and Israelis.

SOME VERY important factors became quite clear from visiting Amman and conversing with people there:

- The Jordanian government's total commitment to the agreement cannot be doubted.
- The Hashemite regime is extremely stable.

- Organized, militant Islamic opposition is politically weak. Despite their bitter antagonism to Jordan-Israel peace, these groups are also less inclined — and far less able — to use violence than their counterparts elsewhere.

- Jordan's Palestinian citizens, who constitute 55 to 60 percent of the total population, are dazed by the diplomatic breakthroughs and rapid changes in the region. Whatever the feelings some of them may have, they know they cannot challenge the regime. On the contrary, as any hope for a triumphant return to pre-1948 homes becomes increasingly unimaginable, their need to stay on good terms with Jordan's rulers is unmistakable.

- Nevertheless, the gap in thinking between East Bank Jordanians and Palestinian Jordanians is never far from the surface. Each group has a very distinctive way of talking about the issues, which makes their identity discernible in the first five minutes of any conversation. It is easier for East Bankers to be enthusiastic about peace with Israel. Palestinians are ever conscious of the continuing contest taking place in the peace process, the uncertain future they face, and a personal struggle against Israel involving homes lost and relatives living under occupation.

- Over a dinner table, a West Bank Palestinian close to the PLO got into a heated argument with a Jordanian general. The



After last year's treaty signing, when Jordanian army and IDF band members sat together, delegates in Amman discussed how the Palestinians fit into the picture. (Ariel Jerolimski)

Palestinian complained that Jordan had gone ahead in making peace with Israel without deferring to the Palestinians' wishes. His interlocutor said firmly that Jordan would act in its own interests. Another person close to Jordan's government stated that Amman should help the Palestinians, but they would have no veto over others, and he accused the PLO of having held the peace process "hostage" in the past.

THIS DOES not mean, however, that there need by any conflict between Palestinians and Jordanians. Rather, what is required is for individual Palestinians to make choices.

In his presentation to the conference, Abd al-Majali insisted: "We are not East Jordanians. We believe in Jordanian nationalism." Those who are willing to support the country's political system would be accepted, and "it doesn't matter what their origin is."

Prof. Abbas Kelidar, of London University's School of Oriental and African Studies and an adviser to Jordan's government, explained: "The sooner people talk about these choices, the better." Palestinians had three op-

Jordan-Israel treaty is much stronger than that between Egypt and Israel. This very fact, however, may partly account for why the average Egyptian was more favorable toward conciliation than his Jordanian counterpart.

ACCORDING TO a recent University of Jordan poll, 40 percent of urban Jordanians reject the Jordan-Israel treaty, while 55 percent disapprove of the PLO-Israel agreement. The greater criticism of the latter accord is probably due to Palestinian Jordanians who fear that Arafat has sold them out in a deal which brings greater benefits to those already living in the West Bank and Gaza.

Jordanians often remark that Israel has been the main beneficiary and holds the upper hand in these agreements.

The control of Jordan's professional associations by anti-Israel radicals has led to nasty situations. A Palestinian-Jordanian writer close to Arafat was expelled by the journalists' association for giving an interview to an Israeli newspaper. A lawyer who visited Israel was expelled by the lawyers' organization and disbarred. So far even the king has

country with just over four million people and few resources? The two big — and easy — opportunities for Jordan's economy are rather the prospect of renewed Saudi aid and renewed access to the profitable market in Iraq. Both of these factors are going to be determined by political rather than mercantile considerations.

Jordan and Israel do have shared security interests. Neither wants the triumph of revolutionary Islamist or radical nationalist movements in the region; both desire a solution to the Palestinian question that has a stabilizing rather than a subversive effect. This kind of cooperation is happening but is not something people want to discuss publicly.

What Jordan generally wants to emphasize is its desire not to be isolated within the Arab world. This means ritual invocations of the need for progress on the Israeli-Palestinian and Israeli-Syria peace-making fronts or, in Abd al-Hadi's words, "removing all cause of conflicts in the area," including ending sanctions against Iraq. As other Jordanian leaders told the meeting, this also means resolving the issues of Palestinian refugees and Jewish settlements.

At the same time, though, the Jordanians often unintentionally antagonize their Arab counterparts. An Egyptian attending the meeting was angry about the fact that his country — and its sense of being the Arab world's leader — was ignored. One of the Israeli speakers wryly remarked that this was the consequence of having a cold peace, rather than a warm one. Jordanian calls to incorporate Iraq into the regional and Gulf security systems, or suggestions that only stability in the Middle East's core will guarantee peace in the oil-producing area, could offend Saudis and Kuwaitis.

Despite all these factors, the progress of recent months remains remarkable. There are very few direct problems between the two countries. The Israeli Embassy may often be publicly shunned but it is deluged by private contacts seeking opportunities for study, trade, and tourism. The number of Jordanians applying to visit Israel has overwhelmed the available facilities. Next month, the embassy will be moving to expanded quarters and establishing its own in-house visa section.

Sneh noted: "If we look at our expectations, we feel that we are going too slowly. But when we look at the Jordan-Israel peace in historical context, we see it is going very fast."

Seeing a Jordanian general bedecked with ribbons and an Israeli Defense Ministry official meet in congenial bilateral talks and embrace in real friendship confirms that remarkable transformation.

Barry Rubin is a senior fellow at the BESA Center and a professor at Bar-Ilan University. His latest book is *Assimilation and Its Discontents*.

Middle East chess players abandon old strategies

Speculation about Iraq's stability is leading strategists to consider implications of new alliances. Dore Gold writes

ALTHOUGH the Middle East is known as an unsettled region of rapidly shifting political alignments, there have been surprisingly few dramatic shifts in the contours of basic alliances in the area during the last three to four years.

The 1991 Gulf war locked Syria into a partially pro-American alignment — along with Egypt — that was preserved through Arab-Israeli peace negotiations after Madrid.

Subsequently, the Clinton administration's 1993 policy of "dual containment" put Iraq and Iran firmly into a separate camp, even if the two states had been rivals in the past.

Despite the tremors that have occurred in Israeli-Egyptian relations and the difficulties in Israeli-Syrian negotiations, a decisive shift in this post-Gulf war regional balance of power has not occurred; Syria has not moved any closer to Iran and Iraq, while neither of these states has joined the Arab-Israeli peace process.

This is the backdrop for understanding the regional reactions to the August 8 defection to Jordan of the former Iraqi minister of industry, Lt.-Gen. Hussein Kamel Hassan, and more than a dozen army officers.

Now, for the first time, the basic alignments that emerged in the Gulf war have the potential of being unlocked due to the developments in Iraq. What precisely is at stake? Two very different concerns have been raised recently in the Middle East:

First, Jordan's King Hussein has spoken about the problems that the region will face from excessive Iraqi weakness.

In an interview with *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* earlier in the month, Hussein warned: "Should the present situation persist, parties surrounding Iraq could be encouraged to exploit the situation for their own interest at the expense of Iraqi land, and this would pose a challenge to Arab leaders."

While he did not say this explicitly, King Hussein was hinting that Baghdad's neighbors might seek to move into the vacuum created by a breakup of the Iraqi state.

For example, Iran could seize the Shi'ite areas of southern Iraq while elements in the Iraqi Kurdish community might seek Turkish protection in the north (despite the struggle of Turkish Kurds against the central government in Ankara).

This would leave the Sunni Arab center, which could stay independent or join either Syria or Jordan.

In the same interview, King Hussein denied that he saw an opportunity for himself to reestablish Hashemite rule in Iraq, which was terminated in 1958.

"I repeat for the 10th time that I have no personal ambition except to carry out my duty towards this people; I would never accept any offer to assume a leadership position in Iraq."

Hussein also said that any talk of a Jordanian-based Iraqi government in exile was premature; still, he did not rule out such a development.

Clearly, the immediate payoff to Jordan, from backing Hussein Kamel, could be improved relations with Saddam Hussein's biggest regional rival, Saudi Arabia.

But what seemed to be genuinely driving Jordan's policy is an attempt to avert any threat to the territorial integrity of the Iraqi state.

A healthy Iraq is a vital Jordanian interest considering Iraq's past importance to the Jordanian economy during the 1980s.

Iraq was not just a market; when war blocked Iraqi access to the Persian Gulf, the Jordanian port of Aqaba became Iraq's primary outlet to the sea, while Jordanian trucks became involved in the transshipment of Iraqi goods.

At the same time, over the last decade, Iraq has not threatened Jordan's own territorial integrity. An Iraqi breakup would not mean the diminution of some potential threat to Jordan.

Thus, Jordan has a great deal to gain if UN sanctions on Iraq are lifted; but a collapse of the Iraqi state — and the ensuing instability that would follow — would offer few advantages to Jordanian national security.

A second concern that is being raised in the corridors of power in the Middle East has to do with Iraq actually joining the peace process with Israel.

This would be facilitated by a change of regime in Baghdad, but it might not necessarily be a precondition.

During the 1980s, an intense internal debate took place in Israel over which side it preferred in the Iran-Iraq War.

One school of thought, chiefly close to the Labor Party, thought Israel should tilt to Saddam Hussein. Indeed, in November 1987, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres came out publicly in support of this sort of pro-Iraqi orientation. Traditional Israeli geostrategists, closer to the Likud, still backed Iran, despite its fundamentalist regime.

With the Iranian army moving deeply into southern Iraq, then Iraqi ambassador to the US Nizar Hamdan attempted to make inroads into the American Jewish community in order to affect American policy.

Saddam Hussein might seek to play the same card in the 1990s in order to break out from UN sanctions and obtain increased American support.

It is noteworthy that, earlier this year, in his first major address as the US ambassador to Israel, Martin Indyk warned the Israeli government against pursuing an Iraqi option.

Should there be a change of regime in Baghdad, the prospects for an Iraqi option for Israel would increase considerably. The American veto against Israeli-Iraqi contacts would drop away.

A Labor government might seek to use the Iraqi option in order to drive Syria to make concessions in the Golan negotiations.

It could also bolster and protect the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty against the uncertainties that are rising on the Israeli-Palestinian negotiating track, to which public opinion in Jordan is

extremely sensitive.

Finally, it would offer an enormous economic boon to Israel, Jordan and the Palestinians, as the international community would seek to invest in Iraq's reconstruction.

The fear of this sort of Israeli-Jordanian-Iraqi axis is what is driving much of the regional politics of the Middle East at present.

Egypt is concerned that such a grouping would shift the center of gravity in the Middle East away from Cairo; in the past, Egyptian expatriate workers found opportunities for employment in the Iraqi economy, which Cairo would want to recover.

For its part, Syria is concerned by the threat of encirclement by three of its southern neighbors.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia prefers to see its immediate northern neighbors, Iraq and Jordan, diplomatically isolated and weak.

What happens next in this Middle East chess game is unclear.

Despite the traditional rivalry between Syria and Iraq, Damascus has a strong interest in preempting the formation of any new blocs to its south and might seek some form of reconciliation with Baghdad; indeed, Hafez Assad has become one of the strongest backers of the continuation of Saddam Hussein's regime in the region and has sought Egyptian and Iranian support for his position.

For Israel, the most important lesson of these developments is that its regional position is not merely affected by its public positions in the peace process, but can be determined far more profoundly by how its diplomacy affects the national security interests of surrounding states.

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אוריאל ליפא

It would be nice to see a policeman from time to time

Jerusalem's Christian leaders are concerned over the wave of murders and other criminal activity that has hit the community, Haim Shapiro writes

An elderly Franciscan friar is murdered in his monastery at Bethphage, just outside the walls of Jerusalem's Old City. The mother of a Greek Orthodox monk is killed on the Mount of Olives. Vandals break into a church in Gethsemane.

It is clear that eastern Jerusalem's Christian institutions have a problem with security.

Following the murder of the friar a week ago, the Franciscan Custos of the Holy Land denounced "the apparent and severe lack of law enforcement security in and around the Christian holy sites for many years."

The acting custos, Father Castor Garcia, describes the situation as "intolerable" and says there is a danger both to the clergy and to pilgrims.

The Franciscan spokesman, Father Claudio Baratto, says that after every such incident the entire community feels as if it has been abandoned. While acknowledging that it is impossible to have absolute security, he says it would be nice to see a policeman from time to time.

"We see no policeman all day long, even though we have thousands of pilgrims," Baratto says.

It is not a question of stationing a policeman at the entrance to every church and shrine, Baratto says, but rather of introducing patrols so that both the clergy and the potential miscreants know there is a police presence. In Ein Karem, where he is the abbot of St. John's Monastery, there used to be such patrols even though the area is not especially prone to violence. The police and the monks knew each other and were friendly. If anything untoward occurred, the priests had someone to turn to.

If something happens on the Via Dolorosa or east of the Old City walls, the priest must call the Old City police station at the Kishle, near Jaffa Gate. Often the police taking the call have no idea who the priest is, he says.

"When the police do come, they are very professional, but we need a killing to get them there," Baratto complains.

Reflecting the view of many, he says that, after dark, many of the streets of the Old City become dangerous. The clergy don't go out by themselves, he says.

Metropolitan Timothy, secretary of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate, says that the whole area of Gethsemane and the

Mount of Olives has become increasingly violent.

Timothy says he has no words to express the anxiety and fear experienced by the members of his church. Given that the Christian clergy are dedicated to serving society, he says, the violence is especially appalling.

He cannot, however, say what the government or the police should do. "It is not for us to dictate to the authorities what measures should be taken."

A CHRISTIAN resident of the Old City, who asks not to be identified by name, says that many streets have become unsafe at night, with young gangs of thieves who do not hesitate to stab their victims even before they rob them. The problem, he says, is one of drug use, which has reached epidemic proportions in the Old City.

Uri Mor, director of the Department for Christian Communities in the Religious Affairs Ministry, says that a joint committee of the Religious Affairs and Police ministries met and decided that there should be alarm buttons in the churches. So far, he says, none of the churches have installed them.

Baratto feels that alarm buttons are not the answer. Churches and monasteries are large areas, and often only one priest or monk is present. He could easily be overpowered before he ever got to the alarm button.

Timothy is also dubious. "I would only pray that the victim has time to get to the alarm bell," he says.

Jerusalem police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby says that, in addition to the murders, there is the problem of young Arabs who annoy tourists and visitors in such sites as Gethsemane.

"We know who committed the murder [of the friar] and we have already arrested someone," Ben-Ruby says.

He says that criminal behavior is to be expected in places where there are large groups of tourists with money. It is no different from similar situations in Europe or the US. He points to a recent Jerusalem police operation in which 11 juveniles and adults involved in crimes like purse-snatching and picking pockets were arrested.

If it is any consolation to the clerics, Ben-Ruby says that the violence is neither politically nor religiously motivated. It is purely criminal behavior, he says.



Palestinians admire the Zahwa Amusement Park, Gaza City's first. It was named after Yasser Arafat's recently-born daughter. (AP)

Gaza's version of Sunset Strip

Now that the curfews are gone, a secular nightlife scene is developing in Gaza – and Hamas can't do much about it, Jon Immanuel writes

THURSDAY night is party night in the Gaza Strip. The eve of the Moslem sabbath is the most popular night to get married, take a date to one of the coffee bars that have sprung up along the seafloor or stroll with the kids in their best clothes to one of the new playgrounds.

The once neglected, rubble-strewn center square in Gaza City, on Omar Mukhtar Street, has been renovated into a landscaped garden and named Norway Park.

The square has cafes and playgrounds with Donald Duck slides and little plastic garbage cans every few meters where well-dressed children deposit their ice-cream wrappers. It has become a custom for newlyweds and their wedding parties to take a final spin around the square. One honking balloon-strewn parade often follows another on the way to the new Summerland leisure complex opposite Shati refugee camp, where PA Planning Minister Nabil Shaath had his Gaza wedding reception last month.

The social scene is changing in Gaza, spreading a veneer of good cheer over a landscape littered with bad memories. Less than 16 months ago only cats, gunfire and IDF patrols in speeding jeeps roamed the streets after the 9 p.m. curfew.

Now, at sunset on Thursday, the grandly named Regency Palace on the seafloor starts to hum as smart cars disgorge their

equally smart passengers.

Opened recently by a relative of Palestinian Justice Minister Freih Abu Medein, it remains a beachhead of the post-intifada hedonist society. Males must come with a female family member or at least claim that their friend is a sister. The music is pure oriental, but the girls dress in Western ways unthinkable a few months ago – in tight jeans, in off-the-shoulder blouses, in glitzy tight dresses.

It is still unthinkable to dress this way in most places in Gaza, and the jeans-clad young women are probably covered from head to foot in piety by day. But the example of the ritzier Rimal area of Gaza is spreading, encouraged by the new PLO rulers from abroad. They are a pretty secular group, whom fate deposited after every PLO setback in the more cosmopolitan areas of the Arab world – early 1970s Beirut and late 1980s Tunis.

Two years ago Hamas had enforcers lurking on street corners to ensure that women dressed in the correct way and men did not bother them. Now their place has been taken by plainclothes PLO security men. And Hamas keeps off the streets in any operational

capacity. This has opened possibilities for women.

"During the intifada occasionally you might see one or two women without their heads covered [in the new city], but never in the old [more traditional] part of the city," says Geraldine Shaw, an American married into one of Gaza's leading families.

"Today, you see a lot of women in the old part of the city without their heads covered."

Before the intifada, Gaza had its fun places. But the intifada gave Hamas the right environment in which to propagate its natural puritanism, and that puritanism seemed to become part of the Palestinian character as did the intifada. The instinctive reaction of Hamas youths to the Palestine Mosque riot in Gaza City which left 12 dead in November was to destroy a just renovated movie theater. That would have been okay five years earlier, but went down badly with most people in the new Gaza.

Having lost political ground to PA police, Hamas has been loath to lose its moral influence too. Forced off violent street action, Hamas has taken to the media.

Five weeks ago, *Al-Watan*, the Gaza Hamas weekly, carried a front-page article next to its banner warning readers to "Take care, take care, there is AIDS at the circus." The report claimed that it had learned from inside

sources that women acrobats at the visiting Russian International Circus had the dreaded disease and were spreading it around.

That was the last issue of *Al-Watan* to appear, although Yarmouk, a conservative weekly, said, "We remain a conservative society, but we will not let the Islamic movement stick its nose into the private affairs of the people," said Diab Alloh, head of the PLO culture department, adding that the paper was closed for "malicious, inaccurate reporting."

The circus left town and is now in Beit Jalla, a more Christian environment, near Bethlehem. The onslaught on behalf of Hamas-style Islamic values did not end there. Two weeks after *Al-Watan* was put out of action, the little-known Association of Islamic Scholars based in Jerusalem published a front-page announcement in the daily *Al-Quds* warning people to stay away from a PA-sponsored culture festival in Gaza and Nablus.

After colorfully trashing the "immoral singing and dancing" and "promiscuous mixing of men and women," it denounced "foreign cultural norms" and described the festival as "against Islam and our people's national interest." The twofold political-religious condemnation gave the group away as a front for Hamas.

Al-Quds earned itself a one-day suspension from Arafat two days later, the ad being identified

as one of its sins.

This is the background to what was being touted as the cultural event of Gaza's summer, the appearance of Israel's oriental pop icon Zehava Ben, who was expected to perform last night at the Zahwa Cultural Center, usually an international conference venue.

The concert was ultimately canceled, however.

Ben has been popular among Palestinians since 1990, sometimes idolized as a reincarnation of Egypt's legendary Umm Kalthoum. Cassettes and videocassettes were sold fairly openly in Jerusalem's Rasheed Street, but never in Gaza. Three years ago one Jerusalem salesman was threatened for putting up Ben posters in a shop.

The Palestinian Information and Culture Ministry, which decides policy in these matters, did not officially confirm her appearance, although posters went up in Gaza. Hamas did not react, but it was clear she pressed all the wrong buttons.

"If it took place, I would expect them to attack it with very virulent language. The fact that she is Israeli and a woman singer who galvanizes the hearts and desires of young men is a cause for great concern. Even non-Islamists who oppose cultural normalization with Israel oppose it," says Khaled Amayreh, a pro-Hamas Hebron writer.

Then there was the case of the Egyptian belly dancer who made a brief but stunning weekly appearance in a tent on the Gaza beach for a couple of Thursdays in July.

The new Gaza society might still find that it is too embryonic to allow its fantasies free reign.

Jebalya boasts the Mercedes of kindergartens

FOR eight-year-old Yasmin Abdel Lafif, the gleaming new kindergarten, built with money from Germany's luxury carmaker Daimler-Benz, is a sign that the bad days are finally over.

"It is very beautiful to have this place," Yasmin said after Tuesday's opening ceremony in the Gazan shanty town of Jebalya – birthplace of the intifada. "We lived through scary days when stones were our toys."

Daimler-Benz, maker of Mercedes cars, gave \$167,000 to build the 17-room kindergarten in Jebalya. At first, 50 children will play there, and some 40 teachers

will train at the facility.

On Tuesday, the kindergarten was stuffed with new toys and children's furniture. "The new school is very different from the ones we went to before, and the toys are like the ones on television," said a happy Zaki Abu Hashem, aged six.

PLO chief Yasser Arafat attended Tuesday's opening with Daimler-Benz executive Matthias Kleinert and Dieter Spoerl, the economics minister of the German state of Baden-Württemberg where the carmaker is based.

"Peace in this region... [needs] the support of the people, espe-

dially in the minds of the children," said Spoerl, whose delegation consisted of 50 businesspeople. "Peace will last longer if there are good economic conditions."

Palestinian Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Nabil Shaath said that the Palestinian Authority and the state of Baden-Württemberg signed agreements on aid and training.

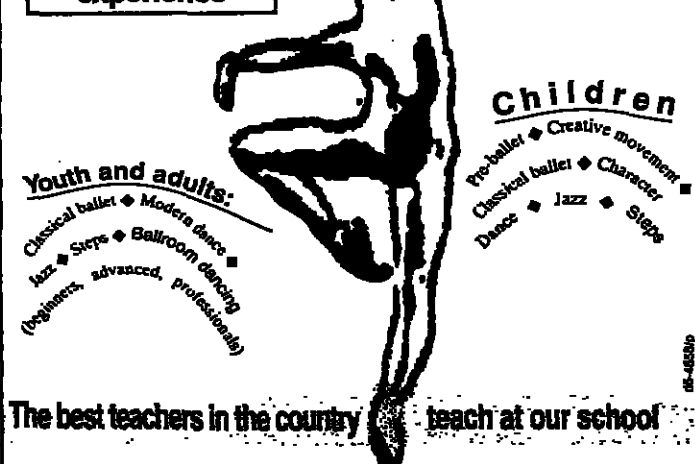
He praised Germany for real-locating \$100 million that, until now, was donated to Israel in development aid. As of 1996, Germany will contribute the money to regional projects.

"This is going to be a very significant new source of help from Germany," Shaath said. (AP)

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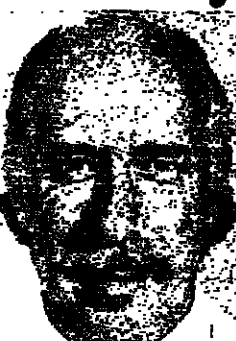
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مكتبة الامم

The German sins irritate more than others

EYE ON THE MEDIA
DAVID BAR-ILLAN

REPORTS from Israel in the German press are no more tendentious than others. But—fairly or not—distortions and nasty innuendos are more galling when committed by Germans.

Like most of his colleagues, Jörg Bremer of the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* is obsessed with the Baruch Goldstein massacre of 29 Arabs in the Cave of the Patriarchs. (In fact, few journalists can refer to violence anywhere in the territories without harking back to Goldstein.) Bremer's August 25 dispatch from Jerusalem is a classic example of this obsession and his general tendentiousness.

"According to security sources, Israeli soldiers in Hebron shot and killed two Arab members of Hamas in a house...."

"A doctor from the adjoining settlers' town of Kiryat Arba had murdered 29 praying Moslems at the tabernacle of the patriarch Abraham. Before and after this there have been disputes between the two peoples again and again. The Jews live in houses which had belonged to Jews before the Arab revolt in 1929...."

No innocent reader could guess that the "two members of Hamas" were wanted murderers killed fighting Israeli forces, or that the Jews who used to live in

Hebron did not leave of their own free will in 1929, but fled because 69 Hebron Jews had been murdered—not in the glamorous-sounding "Arab revolt," but in one of the most savage slaughters in the country's history. The only use of the word murder is, as always, restricted to the Goldstein killings.

A story from Nazareth in the same day's paper gleefully reported that three female English tourists, black-belt karate experts, "were molested by three Israeli men. When the Israelis tried to rape them, the women resisted. The men were brought into [a] hospital with bone fractures and internal injuries."

The FAZ, which usually carefully differentiates between the "two peoples," forgot to mention that the men were Arabs.

Dr. Michael Chetnick, a *Jerusalem Post* reader in Germany, sent me a copy of a letter he sent television station ZDF: "In the program on the 3000 anniversary celebrations in Jerusalem, your commentators accused Israel of neglecting Christian and Islamic traditions, and emphasized that Jerusalem should be divided into a Palestinian and Israeli capital. (In maps presented in various ZDF programs about Israel, Jerusalem is located inside the 'Pal-

estian state.")

"Jesus was crucified in Jerusalem and Mohammed, according to legend, ascended to heaven there. This happened in Jerusalem because both Christian tradition, and Islam have their roots in Jewish religious culture and history. Defenders of a divided Jerusalem should be asked when, even for one day, was Jerusalem the capital of an Arab state or nation, or when there existed a Palestinian state at all."

"No one can ignore the traditional links of Christians and Moslems with this Holy City. But first we must all (Jews, Christians and Moslems) pay tribute to King David as the creator of our common history and heritage. If Germany is not to return to an era when propaganda was an instrument of a totalitarian political system, it must not manipulate facts. Christians and Moslems have many holy cities, and many states and capitals, while Jews have only one."

"If the European governments are convinced that Jerusalem should be a divided capital for two nations still in a state of a

profound conflict, why start with Israel? Maybe this first experiment in history should be tried in Europe: a common capital city in Cyprus for Turks and Greeks, or in Strasbourg for Germany and France. When this succeeds, one could think about setting up a common capital city for the Jews and the Arabs. Jews were used in the past for too many experiments. Enough is enough."

More New York Times

Two weeks ago this column criticized some of the gross inaccuracies in a special report on Gaza by *New York Times* correspondent Serge Schmemmann. The Boston-based media-watch organization CAMERA, whose director Andre Levin has contributed several guest columns to this space, found other distortions which it included in a letter to the *Times*. Following are excerpts:

"Among a number of inaccurate assertions attributed to UN officials [in Schmemmann's article] was the claim that Gaza water has been 'channeled to Israeli settlers.' The reverse is true. Israel channels water to Gaza. Four

million cubic meters of water are provided to Arabs in El-Bureij, Khan Yunis and elsewhere via the Kissufim pipeline of the National Water Carrier.

"Jewish settlers in Gaza do not divert water from Gaza Arabs but have developed independent water sources through use of deep drilling technology that extracts water that would otherwise flow into the Mediterranean. Plans are under way to connect the settlements to Israel's National Water Carrier and to then direct the water now drilled by the settlers to the Arabs."

"Indeed, far from depleting Gaza's water supply, Israel has historically acted to stem the deterioration in water supplies resulting from rampant and inefficient usage under the 19-year Egyptian occupation. Israel had reduced unchecked well-drilling that not only depleted Gaza aquifers but greatly intensified their salinity. At the same time, Israel introduced drip irrigation techniques to replace flood irrigation and thereby reduced the dangerous over-usage of the aquifer."

"Since the 1994 transfer of

power to the Palestine Authority, unregulated well-drilling has resumed, threatening to destroy the water source...." CAMERA also points out that this is not the first time the *Times* printed falsehoods about Gaza. A Chris Hedges story on the strip in January 1994 contained similar fabrications, but the paper did not even let CAMERA fully rebut them in a letter to the editor, let alone publish a correction and apology. Recently, CAMERA complained about this in a letter to the *Times* management.

"...CAMERA documented exhaustively the false claims in Hedges' column in the hope that the overwhelming weight of our criticism would elicit some serious examination of the issues at hand—including the editorial process that had permitted such a flawed report to be printed. Unfortunately, Mr. Hedges' rejoinder to our critique signaled a discouraging lack of interest in the facts...."

"Hedges' rebuttal also contained more blatant errors. For example, in denying our claim that Israel had made significant efforts to improve Gaza health care, Hedges claimed the newly-added community health centers we cited were built by UNRWA, not by Israel. He was flat wrong. They were government clinics.

He claimed UNICEF had administered the inoculation program that virtually eradicated childhood diseases and dramatically reduced infant mortality among Arab babies. He was wrong again. Inoculation was implemented in Israeli Government Health Service (IGHS) and UNRWA clinics. All the vaccine administered was Israeli.

"Hedges claimed we were wrong when we stated that Arab medical staff endured intimidation and outright violence because they worked with Israeli administrators and medical staff on behalf of the Arab populace. Evidence of his claim? 'No one I interviewed knew of any instances when staff at Shifa Hospital were murdered or attacked on hospital premises.' We sent a list of the names, dates and circumstances of attacks against medical personnel at Shifa and other facilities...."

It is depressing indeed that crack reporters feel they have exhausted their search for truth by interviewing representatives of one party to the dispute. That Hedges, one of today's most accomplished correspondents, did not bother to make the most basic inquiries on the Israeli side is a journalistic failure surpassed only by the *Times*' refusal to admit error.

Treating slips and gaps in this penitence season

ANY TIME is good for reviewing our acts and words with the aim of correcting and making amends for errors.

In the normal course of our lives, we find ourselves not finding time for this creative activity; and if the time does present itself, a prior engagement crops up to divert us (pace US Ambassador Martin Indyk).

That is why the Jewish calendar, like the calendars of many cultures, provides occasions for taking stock of oneself and doing something about it. The main occasion is the 39 days from the beginning of the month of Elul through Yom Kippur, with an additional 11 days of grace through Hoshana Rabbah.

We are now only nine days to Rosh Hashana Eve, so I will seize the opportunity. Naturally, I will start by accusing others, ignoring that apt admonition: When you point an accusing finger at your fellow, you are pointing three fingers at yourself.

A VIEW FROM NOV
MOSHE KOHN

Founded by Slavs over a millennium ago, in the year Grass was born there, 1927, it had the status of "Free City" under League of Nations supervision since the end of World War I, though Poland controlled communications and railroads, and collected customs. Germany occupied the city in 1939. After World War II it was returned to Poland.

ITEM:

Many people have denounced those demonstrating against the government's capitulation process for bringing children along. Some of them were not outraged by the participation of Arab children in rock-throwing orgies against Jews in Judea/Samaria/Gaza District/eastern Jerusalem over the years; indeed, they considered them brave little patriots.

It is instructive to note Martin Luther King's attitude to the participation of children in his 1963 protest march in Montgomery, Alabama, as described by Theodore H. White in his *In Search of History*.

When King "proposed to mobilize students for the protest," White writes, attorney-general Robert Kennedy (president John Kennedy's brother) telephoned King "to plead against the use of children in politics."

King "was firm, and said that no matter what happened to them, it was no worse than segregation. And so... students and young children began to fill Birmingham's jails, until the jails would hold no more, and the primitive police chief [Eugene "Bull"] Connor decided that he had to take more violent action."

Connor's action included shooting powerful jets of water through large fire hoses at the demonstrators, and sickening vicious dogs on them.

Then "the television took over," showing the scenes of police violence and showing the demonstrators locking arms and singing "We shall overcome."

Consequently, White concludes, "drama became national politics."

ITEM:

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres has repeatedly in recent years displayed his indifference to facts of Jewish lore and history, even of general history. Recently he displayed a gap in his knowledge of the history of democracy.

On Israel Radio's *Another Matter* program on the morning of August 8 Peres said there "isn't a democratic country in the world that requires a special majority."

In fact, a special-majority requirement to pass national referenda is quite common, "especially where vital, constitutional, or territorial issues are at stake," according to a study by Dr. Yoram Hazony, director of the Jerusalem-based Shalem Center-National Policy Institute.

Hazony lists 31 precedents around the world. Here are a few: Australia requires a majority of the voters plus the approval of two thirds of the states. Austria requires a majority plus two thirds of the lower house of parliament. New Zealand requires 60 percent of the votes cast. Norway requires a majority of the votes cast plus 75 percent of the parliament. Sweden requires a majority plus parliamentary approval in two consecutive terms.

Charles de Gaulle, in referendum in 1961 and 1962 on Algerian independence, asked for "a frank and massive majority," saying that in case of a "weak, mediocre or uncertain" majority he would not be able to conduct his policy and would resign. Both times he got the majority he asked for.

Two thirds of the members of the US Senate present must approve a peace treaty the president wishes to make.

Why are Peres and Rabin afraid to similarly test their policies?

(Thanks to Jay Shapiro of *Ginat Shomron* for the Almanac and King items; Dr. Aaron Lerer of *Ra'anana*, codirector of *Independent Media Review* and *Analysis*, for the Peres quote; and Post colleague Evelyn Gordon.)

THERE ARE more sins on my list, including my own, and I will deal with them. God willing—which He does, of course.

Meanwhile, blessings for the rest of this year and the years to come.



Chastisements in the name of the Torah

"But it shall come to pass, if you will not hearken unto the voice of the Lord your God, to observe to do all His commandments and His statutes which I command you this day, all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you." (Deut. 28:15)

OUR Torah is a book of justice and compassion, of law and lore, of prose and poetry, of story and commandment. But our Torah is also a book of firm conviction: if its Divine commands are observed, society can be perfected; if not, humanity can destroy itself.

We find that the Torah twice pours forth a litany of horrors and chastisements upon Israel—descriptions of hell-on-earth that are mercilessly graphic: "The tender and delicate woman among you... her eye shall be evil towards her bosom husband, and towards her son and daughter and her afterbirth that comes out from her, and towards her children whom she shall bear: for she shall eat them for want of all things...." (Deut. 28:57)

When these horrors are read publicly—in the readings of *Behukotai* and *Ki Tavo* (our portion this week)—their cataclysmic nature changes synagogue protocol: the Torah chanter uses a different tone, much lower than usual, and the custom in many synagogues is that the *aliya* in which the curses fall is given to the chanter, thereby minimizing the discomfort which might be felt by a member of the congregation accorded such a dubious honor.

But discomfort is precisely the purpose of these chastisements—discomfort that compels change. According to the Talmud, it was Ezra himself who prescribed the period when these first and second chastisements are to be read: before Shavuot and Rosh Hashana respectively (B.T. *Megilla* 31b).

Now Shavuot marks the revelation at Sinai, our initial acceptance of the Torah 3,400 years ago. Therefore, Ezra's enactment to read the chastisements before Shavuot warns every Jewish generation of the terrible dangers awaiting us if we ignore God's laws.

But why should curses specific to Israel come before Rosh Hashana, which celebrates God's kingship over all of creation?

SHABBAT SHALOM
SHLOMO RISKIN

AFTER THE Israelites sinned with the golden calf, Moses shattered the tablets he brought down from Sinai. The second tablets he received were given on Yom Kippur—a second Shavuot, thus Ezra's enactment of chastisement before the covenant.

Moreover, the second tablets went beyond the first because they included the concept of the Oral Law. The first tablets were "... written with God's finger." (Ex. 31:18) suggesting that they were absolutely fixed; had they not been shattered, everything God wanted us to know about Torah would be found therein. But when it comes to the second tablets, God tells Moses: "Carve out for yourself two tablets like the first...." (Deut. 10:1)

"Carve out for yourself" hints at the addition of the Oral Law—a human partnership with God in interpreting the law for each generation and with regard to new conditions and inventions, decrees, enactments and customs. The chastisements before Rosh Hashana, therefore, warn us to heed the Oral as well as the Written Law.

But one problem remains: why did Ezra rule that the second chastisement be read before Rosh Hashana and not before Yom Kippur? I would like to offer a suggestion:

Two major cycles define the Jewish year: the seven-week period between Pesach and Shavuot, and the period from Rosh Hashana to Yom Kippur, continuing to the last day of Succot.

The Pesach-Shavuot cycle is oriented towards the Jewish people, their emergence from slavery and their acceptance of God's Torah. In contrast to this national dimension, the theme of Rosh Hashana is the kingship of God over the entire creation.

Yom Kippur continues this theme of kingship, yearning for God's Temple as a "house of prayer for all nations" and featuring the book of Jonah, which calls on arch-enemy Assyria to repent. Succot quickly follows, its

symbols of nature emphasizing a God of the world. Moreover, our Sages link the 70 sacrifices offered in the Holy Temple on Succot to the 70 nations of the world for whom Israel must pray.

Now if the cycle of Rosh Hashana-Yom Kippur-Succot deals with Divine Kingship over the world, it follows that the second tablets of Yom Kippur were not meant only for Israel, but also for the world at large. Indeed, the *Aleinu* prayer, which is the essence of the Rosh Hashana message, emphasizes our responsibility to "perfect the world in the kingship of God," and to "turn towards [the Almighty] all the dwellers of the earth."

Hence, we read the chastisements before Shavuot as a warning to Israel to heed the Torah, and the chastisements before Rosh Hashana as a warning to the world to heed the Torah (and as a reminder to Israel of our responsibility vis-a-vis the world!).

An example of the contrast between an inner-oriented Torah and a universally oriented Torah can be seen in the different ways we rejoice with the law on Shavuot and Simhat Torah, the last day of Succot.

On Shavuot we sit and learn all night, reenacting Sinai. Our relationship to the Torah is inside the study hall, the *beit midrash*; it is a Torah that belongs to us, the Jewish people.

But on Simhat Torah, the last day of Succot, every Torah scroll is removed from the Ark, and we dance and sing holding the scrolls aloft. This joy, the essence of *simcha*, is so contagious that it spills over into the streets of the cities in which we live: Jerusalem, New York, Paris and Moscow. For one day, the Jewish people effectively brings the Torah out of the Holy Ark and into the marketplace, the first step in the fulfillment of Hosea's prophecy that "... from out of Zion shall go forth Torah...." (2:3).

I would suggest that these second tablets symbolize not only an added dimension of Torah—the Oral Law—but an added target of Torah: the entire world. And the chastisements warn us that the future of all humanity depends on our ability to bring God's word to the world at large.

Shabbat Shalom

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BRIDGE

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Rabbit Tricks
South dealer
Both sides vulnerable

North
♠ A
♥ 543
♦ A98764
♣ 542

East
♠ A9543
♥ 2
♦ Q2
♣ Q10876

South
♠ J
♥ AKQJ986
♦ K5
♣ A93

South West North East
1♣ 3♣ 1 double 5♣
6♥ (all pass)

* Strong club system
† He thinks he has a good seven-card suit.
‡ Negative

ERRORS that work out brilliantly are not uncommon in bridge. The late Victor Mollo from England made his fame and fortune writing about just these instances. In his classic book, *Bridge in the Menagerie*, his characters are caricatures of real people.

The most well-known are the Hideo Hog and the Rueful Rabbit. The Hog is, as his name suggests, a hand-hog. He is a great player, who is nonetheless occasionally foiled by the antics of the Rueful Rabbit. The Rabbit is a bumbling fool, but it seems that no matter what mistakes he makes, he lands on his feet, often in a brilliant position.

Bridge Today magazine recently inaugurated a Rueful Rabbit contest, in which readers were asked to submit deals from real life in which a great play was made by accident. One of the best entries is this week's deal from Nikos Sarantakos, of Luxembourg, which took place in Athens during the winter of 1980-81. If you examine the diagram, you will see that there are two spade jacks and no club jack. The reason for this is that the West player, who plays the part of the Rabbit, accidentally had the jack of clubs in his spade suit. Sarantakos tells the full story.

"I was playing at our local club with David Moses, who taught me bridge, against a good player (East) and his partner. As you

see, West misrouted his hand. He put the jack of clubs among his spades, and this was the cause of our misfortunes...

"The strong club was respected in those days and this particular West would never dream of bidding a vulnerable three spades on king-ten sixth. The jack (of clubs), however, solidified his holding.

"Now, six hearts is not the worst of slams. On a non-spade lead, declarer ruffs out the diamonds and crosses to dummy via the spade ace to enjoy them, discarding his club losers. As I learned later, many pairs bid and made it. But West, having received support in spades, deemed the spade lead safe, so he led a small spade. At every other table where the slam was bid, the lead was either the jack of diamonds or a trump.

"With the precious reentry to dummy gone, I embarked on a different line. I planned to eliminate trumps and diamonds, and play the club ace and another. If someone had the club king doubleton, he would be employed. Not a great chance, but it was the only possibility I could see. As you see, this miraculous lie of the cards did actually exist.

"Having read in a learned book that when you are starting an endplay you had better play the crucial cards early enough so that your plan will not be too obvious, I immediately played a small club to my ace. But it was not to be. With a disappointed shrug, West tossed his seemingly singleton king of clubs on the table.

"I still had the hope that he was holding the king-queen doubleton. I eliminated trumps and diamonds, ruffing the third, and exited with a small club. West went into a trance, thinking about his discard (there was still hope for a revoke!) and then he realized to his horror that the king of clubs was not singleton after all, and that the jack had been hiding among the spades. So he played the jack.

"His partner was sufficiently alert to overtake the jack with the queen and cash a club for one down. Many years later I learned the famous adage (known as the Rabbit's Rule) that the king of clubs is always singleton. My own experience shows that it may be singleton even when it is doubleton!"



Get the garden winterized

GARDENING

INEZ KLIMIST

MID-September is the time to prepare your garden for the new year.

The soil is the first consideration. Various materials are used to increase fertility. Lime will neutralize soil acidity and provide calcium for plant growth. But in most of the country, soil already has enough lime, so first test the soil with an inexpensive kit from a nursery.

Then there is the addition of decaying organic material. Well rotted and dry manure is always a good choice, as are the contents of your compost pile.

A buildup of organic material in the soil makes gardening easier. Soil enriched with organic matter is more open to air and water penetration, and encourages better growth. You add the materials, which are broken down into nutrients for plants by worms and organisms in the soil.

If your soil is heavy and compacted with clay, an addition of sand - easily available on the coastal plain - or vermiculite, will lighten it and make it more friable. Do not collect sand from the beach but from areas further inland where the salt content will

have washed away. Perlite, used widely by commercial gardeners, is also a good mulch material which provides air circulation in the soil.

Peat is formed by partial decomposition of mosses and other plants in swamps. It is a good opener for heavy soils, and is necessary for acid-loving plants. Although it does not actually make the soil more acidic, it provides acid directly for the plants, and lowers the pH value of alkaline-heavy soil.

Having added all the important materials to your soil, get out the garden fork. Now the real work begins. Dig, dig, dig. The more spading you do, the better.

Loosen the soil compacted by the roots of bushes and trees, expose it to the winter weather, and remove any large stones. Good digging is the cornerstone of a good garden. It permits earlier, easier, stronger growth of roots in the spring, and is the basis of all good growth.

There will still be plenty of hot, dry weather, but the nights will be cooler and damp. There will not be as much evaporation as there was in summer. Cut back on watering, but don't let the garden dry out.

Keep a sharp eye out for fungus, especially on the roses. A dusty looking white powder on the leaves is the first sign. Don't let it get a foothold. Spray the plants with Sepsol, and put infested leaves into the garbage can.

READER J.R. from a kibbutz near Kfar Sava has a celtis tree in the middle of her lawn. She would like to plant hortensias around the base of it but wonders whether the tree roots will interfere with their growth.

Celtis trees like a rather dry and sandy soil. Hortensias, though they do like shade, prefer a rich and loamy soil. So they are really not very compatible. In addition, the hortensias will need to put down strong roots if they are to thrive and bloom.

Generally, it's a good idea to plant annuals, or smaller perennials under trees. Tree roots will compact the soil, and take up the water and nutrients, making it difficult for larger plants to grow. A large pot placed under the tree might be an attractive answer to the problem.

Chess and the Rubinstein family

CHESS

NICK KOPALOFF

IN pledging his unwavering support for chess in this country, Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein is following in the footsteps of two famous namesakes. Zevi Uri Rubinstein and Akiba Rubinstein both made major contributions to the game's development.

Early in the 19th century, Zevi Uri Rubinstein published an inspirational handbook on chess. Written in Hebrew, *Studies in the Theory and Practice of the Game of Chess* appealed to the Jewish masses' obsession with study and polemic, and heralded a period of intense chess activity among East European Jewry. The author claimed chess "is useful for both the young and the elderly in training the mind to speculate and understand matter."

It is not unlikely that the great Akiba Rubinstein was very much influenced by Zevi's work. Born in 1882, the youngest of 12 children, Akiba was raised by his grandparents to be a rabbi. But, having become exposed - and addicted - to the game at the age of 16, he decided to devote his life to it.

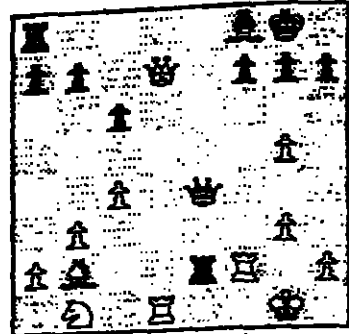
He studied chess for six hours daily and for 300 days in the year. Sixty days were spent on the tournament circuit and the remaining five days were reserved for rest.

By 1912 he had reached the peak of his career and had established himself as one of the leading players in the world. In the famous San Sebastian tournament Rubinstein took first place ahead of the hypermodern neoromantic Aron Nimzowitsch. The latter needed only a draw in the deciding encounter to win the tournament. The game is remembered for the two painful successive mistakes, the likes of which are seldom seen at grand-master level.

Rubinstein, Akiba -
Nimzowitsch, Aron
San Sebastian 1912

Old Indian
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 d6 3.Nf3 Nbd7 4.Nc3 e5 5.e4 Be7 6.Be2 0-0 7.0-0 Re8 8.Qc2 Bb8 9.b3 c5 10.Bb2 Nf5 11.g3 Nh4 12.Ra1 Qb6 13.Nb1 Bx3 14.Rd1 Nf4 15.Qa2 dxe5 16.Nxe5 Rxe5 17.Bd1 Nf7 18.Qd2? Simpler and more effective would have been 18.Bd3 Nd3+ 19.Kg2 with too many Black pieces under attack.

18...Bxf1 19.Rxf1 Nh3+ 20.Kg2 Ng5 threatening mate in two. 21.f4 Qg6! 22.fg5 Rxe4 23.Qxd7 Re2+ 24.Rf2 Qe4+ 25.Kg1 (see diagram)



25...Bc5?? Amazingly, Nimzowitsch doesn't see that he is about to be mated in two moves - 26.Qxf7+ and 27.Qxg7+ mate.

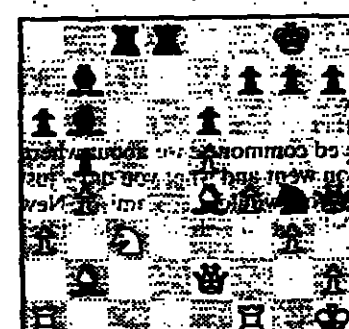
26.Bd4?? More amazingly Rubinstein fails to capitalize on such a rare gift.

26...Bxd4 27.Qxd4 Re1+ 28.Rf1 Rxf1+ 29.Kxf1 Qh1+ 30.Kf2 Qxh2+ 31.Kf3 B32.Qd2! Qh3 33.Qd7! B34.Nc3 Qh4 35.Kg2 Qxg5 36.Qe6+ Kh3 37.Ne2! preventing f4 which would lead to the exchange of the last pawn protecting the White king.

37...Qh5 38.Rd7 Re8 39.Nd4! Rxe6 40.Nxh5 1-0
Akiba Rubinstein, lent his name to several opening variations, but it was in the endgame that, according to many commentators, he had no equal. To enter a level endgame with Rubinstein, it was said, was to court disaster.

In his latter years, Rubinstein became an eccentric, developed persecution mania and spent time in a sanatorium prior to his death in 1961.

The following position is taken from his game against Rodiev in 1907. Rubinstein did not need to demonstrate his endgame prowess as he destroyed his opponent with a masterful combination, Black to play and win.



Solution: 1...Rxc3! 2.gxh4 Rxd1 3.Qxd2 Bxe4+ 4.Qg2 Rb3! forcing mate.

Between a mouse and a squirrel

NATURE

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

HIGH in the branches of an oak tree, there is a rather large round nest of twigs and leaves. At first glance, one assumes that it is a bird's nest. But on the slopes of Mt. Meron in the Galilee, it just might be the nest of a dormouse.

This little arboreal animal, *Dryomys nitidula* in Latin, lives in trees, where it builds its nest and rears its litter.

Dormice, both zoologically and in appearance, are an evolutionary form between mice and squirrels. They are small animals, slightly larger than large field mice. Their tawny, honey-colored coats fade to a pale cream on the belly, under the chin and on the legs, while their somewhat bushy tails are darker, as is a circle around their eyes, giving them a bandit-like appearance.

The dormouse gets its English name from *dormus*, or sleep in Latin. Its Hebrew name is the same, *namnanan ha'etzim* or "tree sleeper." In Europe, where they are fairly common, dormice hibernate through the winter, snug in their nests.

Here, where winters are much milder, dormice do not actually

hibernate but remain active throughout the year. They do sometimes nap for a few days, particularly when the trees and ground are snow-covered. This is also the case with hedgehogs - they hibernate in Europe but here content themselves with a few winter naps. In either case, the purpose of the sleep is to conserve energy when food is hard to find.

Found only on Mt. Meron, the Galilee slopes and the valleys in that area, dormice feed on leaves, acorns, nuts and fruits, as well as some insects. They appear to get all the liquid they need from green leaves, sometimes moist with dew or rain.

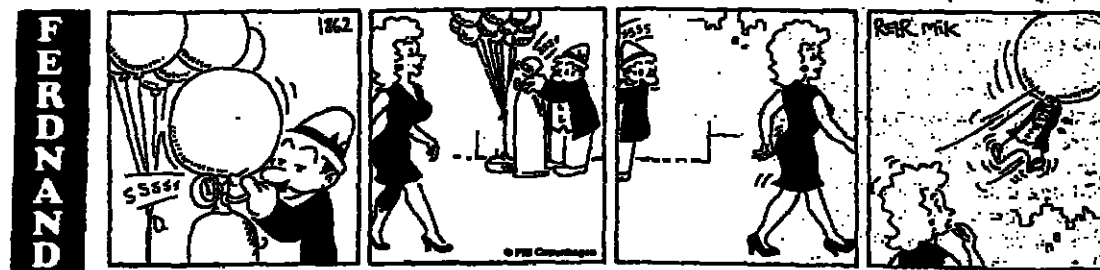
They only descend to the ground for brief periods to move from tree to tree. They build their nests in the very early spring. The female gives birth to three to five blind, hairless young and nurses them for several weeks until they are able to leave the nest and scamper

about in the trees.

While dormice were familiar from past observations by zoologists, none had been seen here for several decades until they were rediscovered on Mt. Meron in 1951. Since then, they have been observed in a number of places in the surrounding area. Since they are small and well-camouflaged, it is hard to spot them and one needs to expend quite a bit of time and effort in order to get a glimpse of one. Early morning, just after sunrise, and late evenings are their most active periods and the best time to observe their habits.

The dormouse is just one of many European animals that appear here but otherwise are rarely seen outside of Europe. Lebanon and Israel seem to be a continuation of the territory extending along the sea coast from Turkey and allowing the spread of these European species.

D'vora Ben Shaul's nature notes have been collected in book form. *Sunbirds and Moonflowers* is available through The Jerusalem Post Book Department and at Steimatzky's stores.



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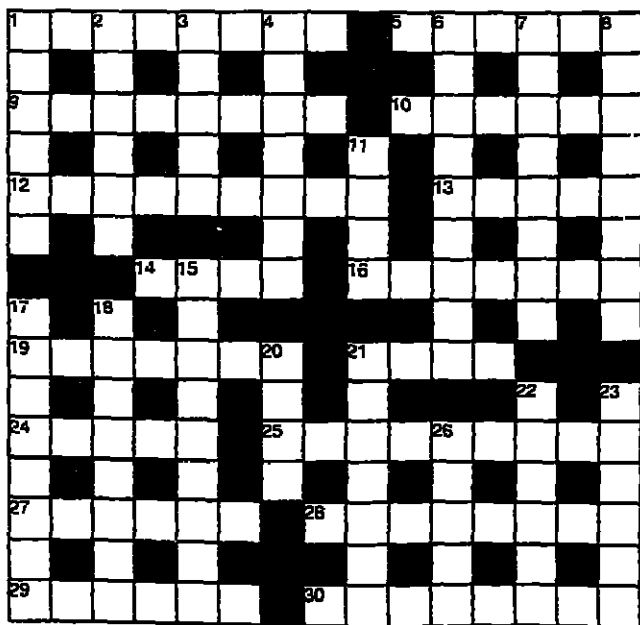
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Held back but given a second helping (8)
- 5 The robber is snapped and gets put inside (6)
- 9 Feels the heat should be surrounded by friends (8)
- 10 The press wind up before time (6)
- 12 The MO's too put out to be pleasant (9)
- 13 Accorded little quarter, so quite pallid (5)
- 14 Overweight English lot! (4)
- 16 General hankering for self-assurance? (7)
- 19 Giving frolicsome dog a run on the beach... (7)
- 21 ... welcome run, say (4)
- 24 Like music observed (5)
- 25 Bring back military force favoured by the body politic (9)

DOWN

- 27 Found in the small lake—also far from water (6)
- 28 So many staying in a Hebridean isle can be irritating (8)
- 29 Note: refuse cuts (6)
- 30 Steadier maybe, yet most expeditious (8)
- 1 Celebrity about to present a key (6)
- 2 Sickly-looking swine taking everything in (6)
- 3 Arrive at stretch of water (5)
- 4 The prospect certainly troubles people (7)
- 6 Support for new law on lace-making (9)
- 7 Not as others are, that's clear (8)



SOLUTIONS

ACROSS: 1 Drooping, 7 Algae, 8 Cavernous, 9 Bat, 10 Lion, 11 Flamm, 12 Justice, 14 Dobson, 17 Survey, 18 Ossa, 20 Lap, 22 Novelist, 23 Tring, 24 Stranded.
DOWN: 1 Duet, 2 Obvious, 3 Park, 4 Nocturnal, 5 Sight, 6 Urastich, 7 Amused, 12 Claring, 13 Jollity, 15 Upstart, 16 Velvet, 17 Spoil, 18 Ahead, 21 Error.

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Less courteous (5)
- 4 Intended (5)
- 10 Went round (7)
- 11 Intuition (5)
- 12 Band (5)
- 13 Determine (7)
- 15 Region (4)
- 17 Discrimination (5)
- 19 Shatter (5)
- 22 Fully satisfy (4)
- 25 Halps (7)
- 27 Imbued (5)
- 28 Giver (5)
- 30 Gemstone (7)
- 31 Laziness (5)
- 32 Commented (5)

DOWN

- 2 Speak (5)
- 3 Beg (7)
- 5 Character of people (5)
- 6 Perplex (7)
- 7 Artifice (5)
- 8 Love (5)
- 9 Insolence (5)
- 14 Orient (4)
- 16 Relaxation (4)
- 18 Weapon-store (7)
- 20 Arbitrate (7)
- 21 Convenient (5)
- 23 Apart (5)
- 24 Slides (5)
- 26 Small fish (5)
- 28 Scent (5)

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and cows
at Tzora

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مكتبة القدس

Tourists return to Cairo

AFTER avoiding Egypt en masse for two years, the tourists are returning. They are giving the economy a needed boost and confounding Islamic militants who promised to destroy the country's tourism industry.

Their return, though far below the peak levels of the early 1990s, comes after a desperate period in which security concerns led to the collapse of the tourism industry just as US travel agents were preparing to showcase Cairo as one of the world's favored destinations.

The near-miss came in September 1992, when 7,000 members of the American Society of Travel Agents – the world's largest and most influential travel association – gathered in Cairo for their annual convention. Despite skepticism over this crowded, chaotic city's ability to handle such a large delegation, the conference came off without a logistical hitch. The presence of an ASTA convention often results in a 25 percent increase in tourism for the host country within two years.

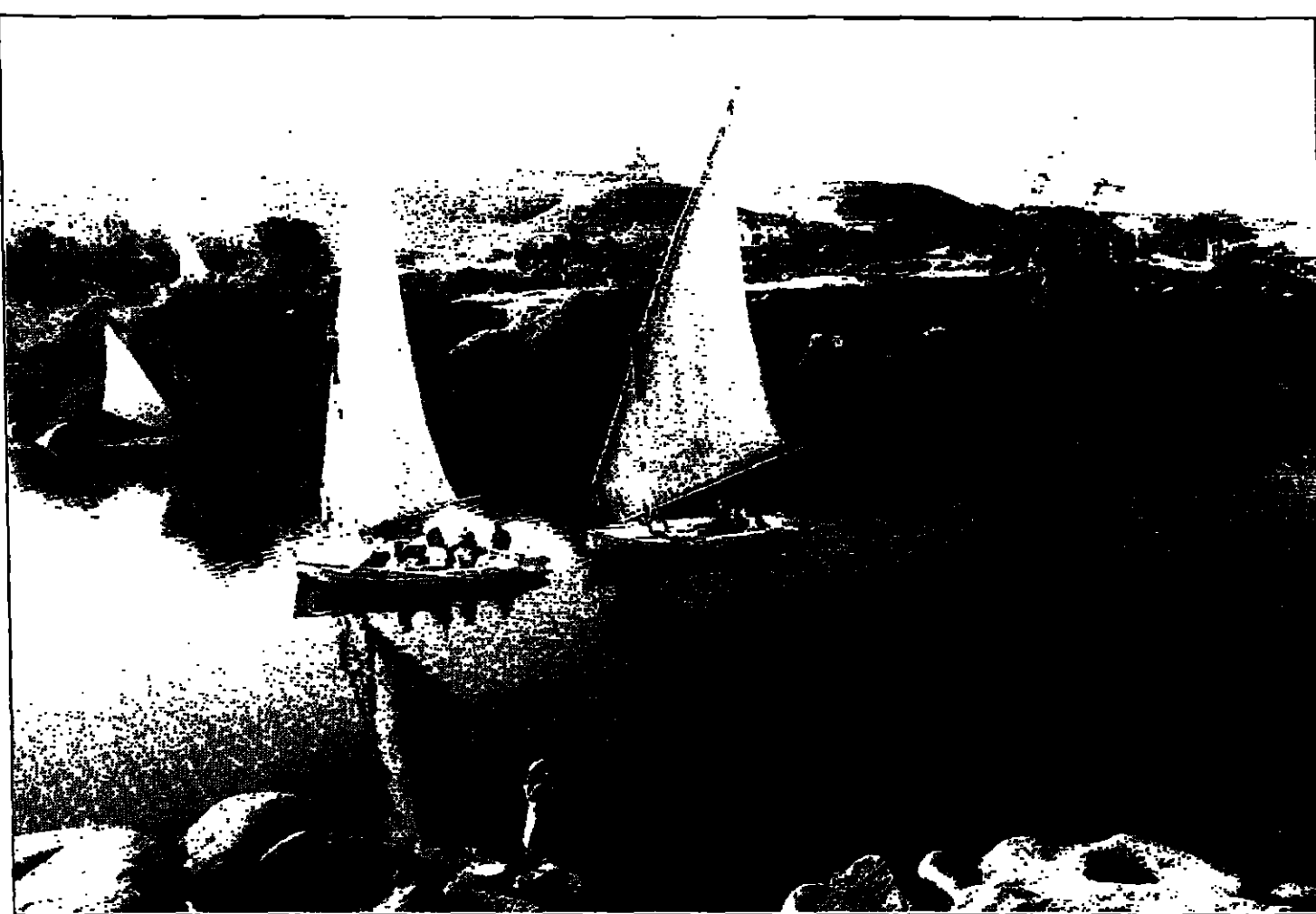
Three weeks after the conference, Cairo was struck by an earthquake that toppled numerous apartment buildings.

And, within a few days, Islamic militants fighting the Mubarak government warned foreigners to stay clear of Egypt. The first of eight tourists to be killed between 1992 and 1994 was shot, and gunmen in southern Egypt opened fire on a tourist boat cruising the Nile. Several prominent Egyptians were attacked in Cairo as infidels.

Tourism – Egypt's largest source of foreign exchange after remittances sent home by Egyptians working in other Arab countries – disappeared. The country's seven Hilton Hotels and four Sheratons echoed with only an occasional footstep. Occupancy in some hotels fell below 20 percent. Tourism revenues tumbled from \$2.3 billion in 1992 to \$1.4 billion in 1994.

"The media vastly overestimated the threat," said Yaap Englesman, sales and marketing director for the 1,250-room Cairo Marriott Hotel and Casino, the Middle East's largest hotel. "Tourists were afraid, but if you used common sense about where you went and what you did – just as you would in Miami or New Delhi or anywhere – the threat was minimal."

TO KEEP the industry afloat,



The Nile in Aswan. Tourism suffered greatly after gunmen opened fire on a tourist boat.

(Steve Silk)

Egypt began catering to business and official conferences – one of the conventions it hosted was the UN Crime Prevention Conference – and offered low-cost packages aimed at budget-minded Europeans. The result, many complained, was that the traditional upscale tourists who came

to discover Egypt's wondrous past were replaced by a group that cared little about history and had few interests other than getting a suntan at one of the Red Sea resorts.

The irony is that Cairo is among the safest cities in the world. Muggings, robberies and

assaults are rare, and a visitor can walk alone down the darkest street at night without fear. On top of that, Egyptians treat Westerners with a cordiality that starts many first-time visitors.

However, the US embassy in Egypt recently issued a fresh warning to Americans to be on

their guard, after it received threats against American interests, an embassy spokesman said.

Tourism's recent revival – arrivals are up 25 percent so far this year, and hotel occupancy has risen from 42 to 58 percent – is the result of a \$17 million international advertising campaign, conveying the message of safety, and the government's harsh crackdown on militants that has contained their violence to an area about 200 miles south of Cairo.

But Egyptian tourism still faces an uphill battle. Americans have been slow to return, and Arabs – who make up 10 percent of total visitors – have started rediscovering Beirut.

Additionally, the public whipping in Saudi Arabia of an Egyptian doctor who said his son was sexually molested by a Saudi headmaster has led to a dispute between Saudi Arabia and Egypt. As an apparent result, Saudis who usually swarm to Cairo in the summer have been mostly absent this year.

(Los Angeles Times)

Tomb of Queen Nefertari set to open

ACKNOWLEDGED as the most beautiful of all the tombs of ancient Egypt, the final resting place of Queen Nefertari near Luxor is set to open to the public this fall for the first time since it was discovered in 1904.

Nefertari was the favored wife of Ramses II, who ruled from about 1290 to 1224 BCE. The prolific pharaoh built monuments to himself all over Egypt, had more than 50 wives and concubines and fathered more than 100 children.

Nefertari's tomb in the Valley of the Queens was discovered in 1904. Although ancient grave robbers had looted it, Egyptologists were awed by the brilliant wall paintings depicting scenes of the queen's life and the Egyptian deities. But even then the painted plaster was crumbling, and for years experts tried to figure out why and what to do about it.

In 1987, the California-based Getty Conserva-

tion Institute took a team of scientists into the tomb to try again to stop the erosion and conserve the artwork. The prevailing theory was that the damage was caused by the humidity from the breath of visitors in the tomb, but an Egyptian member of the team discovered that much of the damage was caused by salt crystals that had leached through.

Tourists will get a chance to see the tomb from November but to help keep humidity out, they will be asked to wear masks over their mouths and noses. Tourists will also be asked to pay through the nose. Admission for foreigners is set at \$30; for Egyptians \$1.50.

The Getty Institute is still concerned about damage the humidity from visitors could cause to the paintings. The buildup of carbon dioxide during summer could also be harmful to visitors, causing them to faint.

(Newsday)

Wine, clothes and cows at Tzora

SEE IT HERE

HAIM SHAPIRO

AT Kibbutz Tzora you can taste some wine and cheese, buy a dress, visit a cowshed, or even get married.

"These days we have to be willing to try anything that will make money," says Ilana Lapidot, director of tourism services for the 400-member kibbutz just south of Beit Shmesh.

During Succot, the kibbutz is to open a new mini-mall, with all of its shops in one area, adjoining a new parking lot. Lapidot promises entertainment for children and adults during the holiday.

However, visitors can always come to the kibbutz winery, which produces some 40,000 bottles a year of sauvignon blanc, semi-dry muscat, chardonnay, cabernet sauvignon, and muscat dessert wine. With its very limited production, the winery is the closest thing here to an estate winery.

A delicatessen there also sells home-produced olive oil, spreads, cheeses and jams, as well as specialty vinegar. There is also freshly baked bread, so you can take your bread and cheese and chilled wine to a nearby picnic table and enjoy a snack.

Adjoining the winery is the recently expanded Canaan clothing store, with garments for everyone. Some, but not all, of the clothing is produced at a factory on the kibbutz. Among the fashions made on the kibbutz are T-shirts with silk-screen prints. Nearby is a new store for souvenirs and handicrafts scheduled to be opened by Succot.



The Nights of Canaan banquet hall at Tzora has seen many weddings, both kibbutz and non-kibbutz, in its time.

It is the souvenir shop which should appeal mainly to the many visitors to Tzora who come in organized groups, ranging from VIP guests of the Foreign Ministry to groups of immigrants.

There are kibbutz guides who can show such groups around in Hebrew, English, Russian, French, Dutch, Spanish, Portuguese and German.

In view of current political developments, Lapidot is presently looking for an Arabic-speaking guide.

Lapidot says each tour is tailor-made for that particular group. Typically, such guests first gather in the kibbutz club room, a large, comfortable hall with armchairs, where kibbutz members relax in the evening.

There they learn, with the aid of a series of colored maps, about Tzora's geography and history. A few photographs of the lone building that existed when the kibbutz was founded in 1948 provide a vivid contrast to today's flourishing community.

The visitors learn, for example, that much of the water for the kibbutz agriculture is treated sewage water from Jerusalem. Lapidot insists the guides do not

hesitate to touch on the community's social and economic problems. "Most of our visitors are quite intelligent and ask a lot of penetrating questions," she says.

Often the visitors see members' homes, she says, but she adds that the biggest attraction is usually the cowshed, where some 400 cows are milked in two-and-a-half hours by two people. The feeding, milking, and even the sex life of the dairy cows are managed by computer, she says.

The visiting groups also have the option of having lunch in the kibbutz dining room, with the members. They can even experience putting their dishes and trays on the large industrial dish washer.

However, by far the largest number of visitors never see all this. They are guests at the many weddings and other celebrations held at Nights of Canaan, the kibbutz banquet hall.

The kibbutz shops are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Tours for large groups cost about \$5 per person, while a tour with lunch is about \$12 per person.

Prices for smaller groups vary and all tours should be arranged in advance. Tel. 02-908231.

Rosh Hashana relaxation happens at Ein Gedi's spa

TRAVEL TIPS

HAIM SHAPIRO

FOR those staying in Israel during the holidays, the Ein Gedi spa is offering a series of attractions. The price of a 10-minute camel ride is NIS 14, while an hour-and-a-half tour of the Nature Reserve is NIS 35. A jeep tour, with a maximum of seven passengers, is NIS 558 per jeep. Throughout the holiday period, the spa will open at 7 a.m. and the kibbutz plans to have two information booths. For information and reservations call 177-022-3320.

FOR a traditional Succot holiday, Emunah, the Religious Women's Organization, is organizing vacations at two separate hotels. The eight-night stay at the Jordan River Hotel in Tiberias is \$848, while that at the Har Hacharmel Hotel in Haifa is \$704. Both packages include full board and tips, as well as transport from Jerusalem or Tel Aviv.

ANOTHER organizational holiday travel event is a 10-day Succot tour of Turkey, organized by the AACI together with Ophir Tours. The price of the tour is \$845.

A series of four-night holiday getaways is being offered by Bali Tours during the holiday season. The price, which includes airfare, hotel and breakfast, is \$709 for Budapest, \$769 for Prague, \$636 for Rome, and \$794 for Barcelona.

HOLIDAY packages to London

and Paris are available from Cial Aviation, with the price of a three-night package to London starting at \$449, the same price as a ticket.

The company's prices for charter flights for the holiday period are \$449 for London, \$459 for Paris, \$549 for Nice or Toulouse, \$475 for Bratislava, \$448 for Munich, \$504 for Frankfurt or Stuttgart, \$544 for Cologne or Hannover, \$568 for Hamburg, and \$434 for Zurich.

VISITORS to Britain should consider buying the seven-day Great British Heritage Pass, which for £22 allows free entry into nearly 600 historic houses, castles and gardens throughout the United Kingdom, including Windsor Castle. The pass is available at Tourist Information Centres throughout Britain, where you can also pick up a free copy of the latest Festival of Arts and Culture guide.

FOR those who seek luxury, and can afford it, the Silver Wind, an all-suite cruise ship, is to make an 11-day voyage in October from Haifa to Kenya, via the Suez Canal. Natour, which represents the company, says that the price of \$4,699 includes all meals and drinks and a return flight from Nairobi to Israel.

Note: All prices are per person based on double occupancy unless otherwise indicated.

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Winners of the Chaine des Rotisseurs world famous restaurant award

Beijing nothing like it used to be

WHETHER trying to track down a favorite hangout, a good greasy spoon or a charming back alley, the answer I got was the same. The locals delivered it simply, automatically, as if they had said it many times before: "Chai le" – torn down.

Never an attractive city, at least in its Communist incarnation, Beijing now resembles an immense construction zone.

Tall buildings, or scaffold-covered shells, rise from the ruins of one-story, concrete-block proletarian shops. Centuries-old neighborhoods of gray, tile-and-brick courtyard homes, the hint of a lost era's elegance, are gone.

Shopping centers, hotels and apartment complexes – in smoky glass, white tile and pink stone – stand in their place. The roads are bigger, bringing with them snarl of traffic that overwhelm the sturdy bicycles that once dominated the streets.

Markets brim with mangoes from southern China and oranges from the US. Department stores are jammed with big-screen TVs and overstuffed furniture. Beijing's new middle class is flush with cash and confidence.

Harsh weather, a depressingly limited array of food and the petty intrusions of life in a totalitarian state were all things I had been prepared to deal with again on my return to Beijing after 6½ years.

I was not ready to feel a stranger in the city whose lifeless socialist boulevards and teeming side streets I learned on the back of my Forever-brand bicycle.

Beijing, in my absence, has been transformed, its face and the little soul it had reshaped by construction and consumerism.

Even the rice bowls have changed. Time was a meal consisted of a bowl of rice as big as your head and some overcooked cabbage commingling with slices of fatty pork.

In many restaurants today, the rice bowls are smaller than teacups, and the menus offer variety once thought to be available only on the tables of Communist Party bigwigs.

The changes Beijing has gone through are most stark at night. The city was once so dull after sunset it looked like a neutron bomb test site: all the buildings were standing but the people were gone.

People now crowd into swanky restaurants offering Cantonese seafood, dance in discos side-by-side with aging Taiwan businessmen and their young mistresses, or drink in pubs – British, American or German style.

For those with money, there are glitzy karaoke bars, where hostesses pour cognac at \$50 a glass, about the monthly wage for most urban residents and unaffordable for all but private entrepreneurs and those on expense accounts.

Occasionally, the excitement gives way to a faint sense of loss for the Beijing I knew, a certain charm of living in a dreary, anachronistic Stalinist society. But in truth there is little to be nostalgic about.

My Beijing was bleak, a numbing landscape of gray winter days spent in five layers of clothing, indoors.

A day had to be mapped out like a military campaign to hit markets before the fresh food disappeared and then make it home to shower before the sun left the bathroom window and what little heat there was drained away.

Those inconveniences paled against the prying of party officials trying to find out where I had been and with whom.

Less than 10 years ago, Beijing was still a society caught between repression and longing.

People were eager for change, new ideas and the modern material comforts they saw on television and foreign tourists. The government too was eager to meet those needs as long as they did not upset the political order.

Friendships between Chinese and foreigners often seemed to fall on the minus side of the equation.

Chinese people I knew were denied permission to go abroad, given bad jobs or passed over for promotion. The bureaucrats who ran the "work units" and controlled everything from job assignments to housing hinted that their contacts with foreigners were to blame.

Prosperity has loosened the grip of those party functionaries some. With talent in demand and private entrepreneurship a possibility, many people have the personal freedom to choose their jobs and housing, and forgo dependence on government.

Neighbors no longer intently spy on each other; they do not need to curry favor with officials to survive. "They are more satisfied with their own lives to care about others," one Chinese friend observed.

But prosperity has come at a price. For some Chinese, that has meant staying out of politics. The Communist Party drives the point home every time it detains or arrests one of a core of die-hard democratic activists.

People have to be careful about what they say, especially to foreign journalists whose telephones are tapped and movements monitored. Some topics, such as the military assault that crushed the 1989 democracy movement centered on Tiananmen Square, are off limits.

Economic development has also revived all manner of ills the party once proudly claimed to have eradicated.

Masses of unemployed or underemployed peasants from China's countryside swarm Beijing's streets. Some men, the lucky ones, live cheek to jowl in olive-drab army tents while performing grunt work on dangerous construction sites.

The lame, maimed and miserable can be found in all parts of town begging for money, some so desperate they grab passersby pleading. Prostitutes are busy in hotel lobbies and intersections.

Still, they and all manner of con artists that Beijing attracts are doing what their better educated compatriots do in a different way: trying to make money.

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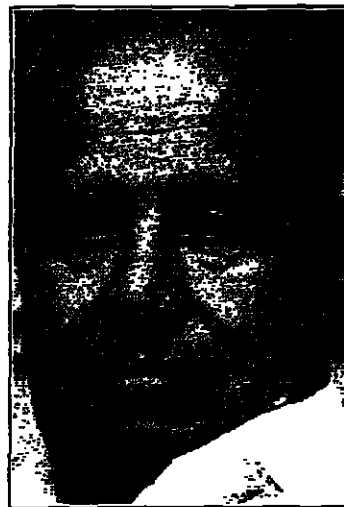
Handwritten signature: *אליהו*



SA Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo joined in a freedom song at dinner. (Isaac Harari)



Columnist Mira Avrech got a whiff of perfume in honor of her marriage. (David Rubinger)



Bethlehem Mayor Freij eagerly awaits the Peace Tourism conference. (I. Karinsky)

Territorial annexation becomes a trend

JERUSALEM Mayor Ehud Olmert is not the only local council head with ambitions for a larger turf. Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo is seeking to annex all the smaller municipalities in the Dan bloc, claiming that placing them under a single administration would eliminate duplication and result in enormous savings vis-à-vis the public purse.

Milo has already discussed the matter with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and plans to take it further with Interior Minister Ehud Barak. It's not a new idea, he says. It was first mooted when Yehoshua Rabinovitch was mayor of Tel Aviv, and has since been gathering dust. What with Greater Jerusalem and Greater Tel Aviv, the membership clout of the Union of Local Authorities would be sadly depleted.

THE STRAINS of "We Shall Overcome" echoed on Wednesday night across Jerusalem's Yemin Moshe neighborhood. The source of the sound was the Montefiore restaurant where Absorption Minister Yair Tzaban, who had been in the forefront of Israel's anti-apartheid movement, hosted a dinner in honor of South African Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo. Tzaban waxed nostalgic, as did other prominent leftists. With tears in their eyes, they once again sang the song that had sustained them from freedom from racial bias was still a distant dream.

NOT TONIGHT Josephine, but certainly next week. Staffers at the Shalom Hotel, Jerusalem, are boning up on their knowledge of French history in preparation for the visit next week of a group of French blue bloods, some of whom claim a blood line with Napoleon Bonaparte. Prince Louis Napoleon Bonaparte-Wyse, his wife the Baroness de Beaulieu, and Baron Napoleon Gourmand will be among some 40 French dignitaries who allowed themselves to be persuaded by Gisele Gottfrieski to include Jerusalem in their travel plans.

A war heroine, Gottfrieski is renowned in Europe for her efforts in rescuing Jews in Germany. Asked for details about the meals to be served to the Bonaparte group, Yehuda Greenbaum, a member of the executive board of the hotel's parent company, said that the cuisine would consist of "French delicacies, Israeli-style."

Loosely translated, that means no butter or genuine cream sauce with the meat.

AND WHILE on the subject of food, it seems that, to be politically correct, a prime ministerial

GRAPEVINE GREER FAY CASHMAN

candidate has to watch not only what comes out of his mouth, but also what goes into it. Thus Likud chairman Binyamin Netanyahu, in an interview with *Hashavua*, pledged that he would no longer patronize nonkosher restaurants.

FOLLOWING on the heels of the Peace Tourism conference, which attracted several international heavyweights from the tourism industry, comes the International Hotel Association conference (in November), with confirmed attendance by representatives of every major hotel management chain operating in Israel, plus several others which are now contemplating entry into the local hotel scene.

Awaiting their arrival with eager anticipation is Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij who holds the Palestinian Authority's tourism portfolio. Freij has been waiting for a long time to have modern luxury hotels with global affiliations in his city. If things work out, Bethlehem may never again have to worry about there being no room at the inn for Christmas.

LIKUD MK Silvan Shalom, a keen soccer fan, was one of several parliamentarians from across the political spectrum who cringed at Beersheba's crushing defeat by Barcelona. The usually buoyant Shalom, who risked upsetting his friend and parliamentary colleague Yehoshua Matza by opting to be a spectator at the game instead of attending the wedding of Matza's daughter, was so mortified by the results that he was almost inconsolable. Even though Beersheba failed to score, it certainly made a lot of money out of billboards and other by-products. And Beersheba Mayor Yitzhak Rager capitalized on the foreign media focus on his city, taking the opportunity to give radio and television interviews about upward demographic curves, industrial growth and housing development.

CELEBRITIES FROM all over the country flocked to Old Jaffa for the official opening on Tuesday of the Ilana Goor Museum. The massive publicity campaign which preceded the event did not do sufficient justice to Goor's fertile mind and her extraordinary and prolific output. Guests vied with each other in the quest for superlatives to describe the impressive edifice which Goor calls "my home." Amid all the magnificence, Goor herself cut a dramatic figure in a long, stark black

ensemble adorned by a wide, gold wrist band. Friends who mistakenly thought that Goor had transferred the collection from her other palatial residence in New York were set straight by the artist's husband, Leonard Lowengrub, who with a twinkle in his eye said: "Ilana never sleeps." Barely recognizable with an upswipe hairstyle, MK Yael Dayan, who came with her mother Ruth, commended Goor's talent, wisdom and imagination, while much-traveled fashion designer and philanthropist Lola Be'er enthused: "It's unbelievable. I've never seen anything like it."

Swissair public relations director Estee Roehm made several feeble attempts to go home, but could not tear herself away. While singer Shoshana Damari kept fingering a statuette which she wanted to purchase, Gottfried president Yehudit Gottfried bought her son an Ilana Goor T-shirt. Goor's neighbor, art dealer Horace Richter, took on the role of the father of the bride and hugged and kissed many of the guests as they arrived.

ISRAEL'S No. 1 social columnist, Mira Avrech, who herself became an item this week when she married former Technion president Dr. Max Reis in a private ceremony at the Jerusalem home of Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and his wife Soula, received an unusual wedding present - a bottle of perfume - from celebrity fashion designer Shoshana Ben Zur. What made the gift unusual was that it is a new fragrance, which will not be officially launched until September 20. Aptly named Premier, the perfume is the first to appear under Ben Zur's own label.

The fragrance will make its market debut at the Dan Panorama in a Hollywood style extravaganza dedicated to Libi, the Soldiers' Welfare Fund, which this year marks its 15th anniversary. The gala bash will be attended by Re'uma Weizman and Nagwa Bessouay, both of whom are Ben Zur's clients. Others who have purchased tickets include MKs Dalia Itzik and Yael Dayan, as well as Devora Rejwan, who is in the forefront of Libi activities in Jerusalem.

FORMER TECHNION students who have become captains of industry this week restored one of their old classrooms and established permanent chairs in the names of loved ones at the Daniel and Matilda Recanati National Science Museum in Haifa. Alumni paid \$10,000 for each permanent chair.

The funds will be used for projects which will make science and technology more attractive to youth. Among those in attendance were Uzia Galil, president of Elron; Leon Recanati, Supersol's chairman of the board; Zvi Dori, founder and director of the Science Museum; and Giora Meyuhas, managing director of Gadot Petrochemicals.

CANADA'S NEWLY installed ambassador, David Berger, who this week presented his credentials to President Ezer Weizman, plans to take his wife Monica and their children Laura, eight, Philippe, six, and Sarah, three, to the Golan tomorrow. No, they're not going to check out whether or not withdrawal will be in Israel's best interests.

They're going to join Canadian troops serving with UN forces in the North, in the annual walkathon which is part of the Canadian anti-cancer drive.

The 10-kilometer walk will commemorate Canadian Terry Fox, who died in June 1981, during a cross-country walk to raise funds for cancer research.

A RECEPTION hosted by Australian Ambassador Peter Rogers and his wife Sandy in honor of the large Australian trade delegation touring the Middle East, enabled Nahum Feiglin, treasurer of the Israel-Australia Chamber of Commerce, to indulge his nostalgia buds.

Visiting tour operators suggested Israel abolish airport checks and highlight its coastline, Haim Shapiro writes

GETTING more tourists is easy. All you have to do is abolish the special security checks for passengers on flights to Israel.

That is the advice of Mark Pasture, director of TUI, the largest travel company in Europe and one of the largest in the world. Pasture was one of the many travel executives from abroad attending the recent Prime Minister's Conference on Peace Tourism. TUI sells tours to some 5.5 million Europeans annually, with about 15,000 of them coming to Israel.

According to Pasture, there are two types of tourists: travelers and vacationers. The traveler is interested in seeing new sites and having new experiences, while the vacationer is simply interested in spending time in warm, friendly, pleasant surroundings with no particular challenges.

TUI handles mostly vacationers who go on German charter airlines to holiday destinations. Israel, on the other hand, is a country whose tourists are almost entirely travelers interested in the historic sites or religious heritage of the country, Pasture said.

It is possible to tap into the lucrative vacation market, Pasture added, but only if those coming could feel secure. This feeling of security, he stressed, has nothing to do with actual security or the possibility that a tourist might be hurt or attacked in some way. By asking threatening questions at the airport, and taking other frightening measures, such as setting up separate departure areas, Israel is sending visitors the message that it is unsafe, he said.

In contrast, he pointed out, the countries of the European Union have sent a very different message by virtually abolishing border controls within Europe. That is a message of peace and safety, he said.

But it seems unlikely that Pasture's suggestions will be accepted in the near future, at least if one is to judge by the remarks of El Al general manager Rafi Harlev, who also spoke at the conference. Asked if El Al would maintain its rigid security checks even if it acquired landing rights in Japan, where such a check may be regarded as impolite, Harlev said the airline would not compromise on security.

"We will continue to ask these questions even if the Japanese regard them as impolite," Harlev said.

DESPITE the factors that deter bringing people to Israel, Pasture said his company is interested in acquiring two sites for its popular Robinson Club chain: Nitzanim, north of Ashkelon, and Nahsholim, on the beach near Zichron Ya'acov.

This fell in with another piece of advice: Remind people that Israel is on the Mediterranean, the same Mediterranean where they spend their vacations in Spain, Italy, Greece or Tunisia.

At the same time, others at the conference were more interested in the fact that Israel is part of the Middle East, a region which shows an unusual tourism potential.

One of these people was Don Antonio Savignac, general secretary of the World Tourism Organization (WTO), an inter-governmental organization comprising 125 member countries.

(Continued from Page 9) increasing from week to week," said Yehoshua Shani, one of the group's leaders from Kiryat Arba. "In less than two months, we have gone from a conference with 600 people in Ariel to a conference in Jerusalem of 1,300 people. Thousands of people attended the protest Wednesday night, and this after the media played up appeals by the police for people not to attend."

What sets Zo Artzenu - which has as its ideological premise a rejection of the legitimacy of the government - apart from other radical right-wing groups is that it is not marginal, Lissak said. This is not a "fringe group completely outside of the consensus," he said. "It is made up of people who were well within the consensus. This is not Kach or



Japanese tourists disembark from an El Al flight. Spokesmen for El Al said that when it comes to probing questions as a security method, the airline would not compromise. (Jacob Koff)

tries, as well as over 30 commercial organizations. It is obvious, he said, that tourism is based on nonconfrontation. When there is terrorism or civil war, tourism disappears.

The forecasts of tourism in the

Middle East, he said, are based on the assumption that the peace process will continue.

Savignac noted that, for what he described as "historic" reasons, Israel is considered part of Europe rather than the Middle East

in the WTO statistics. However, he added, so are Cyprus and Turkey, and Israel will certainly be affected by the trends in the other countries of the Middle East. However, Israel showed a fairly low annual rate of increase - 4.2 percent - in the number of tourist arrivals between 1993 and 1994, compared with other countries in the area. Turkey's rate was 16.9%, while Egypt had an increase of 5.9%, Jordan 7.3%, Tunisia 7.5%, Morocco 5.3%, and Cyprus 11.6%.

In terms of growth in tourism income, Israel did somewhat better. The percentage of increase in tourist receipts from 1993 to 1994 was 8.4%, comparing favorably with 4.9% for Egypt and only 1.3% for Jordan, but falling behind Turkey's 12.6%, Tunisia's 10.1%, and a whopping 18.1% for Cyprus.

According to Savignac, world tourist arrivals will double over the next 20 years, with most of the tourists coming from Western Europe, but an increasing number coming from East Asia and other long-haul markets, especially North and South America.

This fits in well with Tourism Minister Uzi Baram's assertion that Israel must strive for quality, rather than quantity, in its tourism marketing, with the major efforts aimed at the middle class and up.

Accommodating change

THE hotel rooms of the next decade are expected to undergo revolutionary changes, mainly in the area of technology.

This is the view of Guillermo Rocha, president of the International Hotel Association, which is to hold its annual congress in Israel in November.

Rocha, who was attending the recent Prime Minister's Conference on Peace Tourism, noted that during the past decade there had already been far-reaching changes in many hotel rooms, in the form of electronic locks, safes, mini-bars, and sophisticated telephone, light and air-conditioning controls.

Today, especially in hotels catering to businessmen, there are such facilities as fax machines and connections for personal computers in the rooms.

He predicted that it is likely that there will be hotels offering satellite television hookups, with a choice of 500 channels, including channels through which the guest can do all his banking and airline reservation business.

During the coming conference, hotel managers will discuss how to adapt to such changes, he said.

He also noted that, along with the conference, there is to be a trade show featuring the latest in equipment for hotels.

Avi Rosental, director of the Israel Hotel Association, said the decision to hold the congress here was a "vote of confidence" in Israel and the region by the world hotel industry. **H.S.**

FEIGLIN

the Jewish underground, or [Moshe] Levinger. It is made up of a much wider reservoir of people."

But how wide, and how many are willing to make a sacrifice like going to jail, will be the barometer of the group's effectiveness. "The government does not need a majority of the public to support a policy to continue with it," Wolfstfeld said. "It only needs a majority of people willing to stay home."

"What happens generally is that groups like this are caught in a dilemma," Wolfstfeld said. "The more extreme they become, the smaller numbers they attract. The less extreme they are, the less attention they get."

His impression is that, as the group competes for attention, it will become more radical, and - as a result - its support and effectiveness will peter out.

BUT ANOTHER academic who wrote a book on the country's protest movements, Bar-Ilan University's Sam Lehman-Wilzig, said he doesn't see the movement petering out.

Whether it succeeds in changing government policy is a different story. According to Lehman-Wilzig, 40% of the country's prolonged protests over the years have succeeded in obtaining their goals. But most of these have dealt with financial, not ideological, matters.

"It is easier for the government to throw money at a problem to shut up a protest movement than for it to change its ideological policy," he said.

There have been a few exceptions, foremost among them Gush Emunim's action in the mid-1970s that led to the establishment of settlements, and protests over the Lebanon War, which Lehman-Wilzig said had an impact on the government's policy.

If the likelihood of changing ideological policy is slim, what role does he see Zo Artzenu playing? "I'm not sure," he said.

"But it does keep the issue on the front burner, keeps the diehards feeling they are doing something up to the elections, and it may keep those wavering from going to the other side."



September 24 is the last day for purchasing half-price tickets for The Event on October 10 at Wingate. Phone the Ticket Hotline today, 09-989149 or 09-982957 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. or contact your local Olim organization. NIS 15 (Adults), NIS 10 (Children 5-18, soldiers), Under 5 FREE. Inquire about subsidized bus tickets!

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Bezeq sets up international subsidiary

JUDY SIEGEL

BEZEQ'S board of directors yesterday approved the establishment of a subsidiary - Bezeq International Ventures (BIV) - to promote and carry out international telecommunications projects. The new company takes over from Bezeq's department of international relations.

Bezeq was required by the Communications Ministry to divest itself of operations unrelated to local infrastructure; BIV is the latest product of this policy, after the establishment of Bezeq Bit for selling peripheral equipment.

Bezeq chairman Gurion Meltzer will also serve as BIV chairman, while Yoav Krill, who until now has been head of international relations, will be the new firm's managing director. Zvi Amid, a former director-general of Bezeq, was hired as a special adviser and will run BIV's India project, once it gets approval from the government in New Delhi.

Amid, who has been director-general of Darcom - the now-inactive telecommunications company

founded by the late David Reichman - is a controversial figure. A former IDF chief communications officer, he was a founder of Bezeq in 1984, but was forced out after the Jerusalem District Court sentenced him to three months in prison for making false statements and granting favoritism to a large supplier. The court did not find Amid guilty of personally profiting from this, and he was allowed to do community work instead of serve his sentence.

A Bezeq spokesman said the company's legal adviser had specially examined the issue and found no reason why Amid could not serve as an adviser to BIV. He will leave Darcom and move to BIV's offices in Tel Aviv.

The India project will involve the establishment and maintenance of phone networks in two districts, each of them with some 50 million residents. BIV will be part of a consortium which has won a tender to build telecommunications infrastructure in a total of nine districts.

Eisenberg finances power project without guarantees

Post Business Staff

BUSINESSMAN Shaul Eisenberg has wrought a major breakthrough in the way major infrastructure projects are financed by cobbling together a \$625 million deal for a power project in China without bank guarantees.

Eisenberg's firm, United Development Inc., joined with Siemens in signing a deal with a Chinese consortium for the construction of two 350 megawatt power units at Rizhao, on the coast of Shandong province, southeast of Beijing.

The project had seemed destined for the deepfreeze because the Chinese government, concerned about the buildup of its debt, had stopped providing bank guarantees for most infrastructure projects.

This decision has created a major logjam by halting dozens of power projects involving many of the world's leading equipment suppliers.

The *Financial Times* suggested this week that the Eisenberg-Siemens deal may create a precedent in funding arrangements for billions of dollars worth of infrastructure projects.

Eisenberg said in Beijing this week that he hopes to replicate the Rizhao deal in other infrastructure projects under negotiation. As head of Israel Chemicals, he is presently negotiating the construction of a \$450 million potash plant in Qinghai province. He is involved in some 30 joint ventures in China and is a major trader there.

Financing for the project totaled some \$350 million, with the balance made up of equity from participants and loans from Chinese banks.

A statement issued by the Eisenberg group said the Rizhao project is the first "without a bank guarantee from a Chinese bank or any other financial institution."

Eisenberg said that the partners had spent millions of dollars on legal documents in formulating the deal.

David Platt, one of the legal advisers to the project, said the model agreement was already circulating in Hong Kong financial circles. He said he is certain that it will serve as a basis for other companies bidding for power projects in China.

Ministries okay 10% egg price rise

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

EGG producers yesterday retreated their threat to stop sales following the approval of a 10 percent increase in egg prices by the Finance and Agriculture ministries.

The Ministry of Agriculture said the price of an egg will increase to 33 agorot next week. Earlier this week, the egg producers said they would stop selling

on Monday unless prices went up.

According to the Poultry Growers Association, producers have been receiving about 64 percent of the cost of producing eggs since August 1994. The association claimed market prices have remained virtually unchanged

over the last six months, despite a 20% increase in the price of raw materials needed to produce eggs.

The Ministry of Agriculture decided to reform the egg sector two years ago in reaction to many years of excess supply. As a result, egg production was restricted and the price of eggs more than halved.

Lockheed opens new TA office

RACHEL NEIMAN

LOCKHEED Martin yesterday opened its new Tel Aviv offices with a promise of renewed commitment to the Israeli market.

The multinational was created earlier this year by the merger of Lockheed and Martin Marietta, and the combined office is part of a worldwide consolidation of personnel and facilities.

The opening was attended by representatives of Lockheed Martin and Israel's defense community.

The relationship between Lockheed Martin and Israel's security was outlined by Mickey Blackwell, president of the corporation's Aeronautics sector.

"We look forward with confidence to a new era in our relationship with Israel," said Blackwell. "The combined strengths of the new Lockheed Martin offer major new opportunities for co-operation and participation with Israeli industries in providing high-technology systems to meet our customers' needs."



European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) President Jacques de Larosiere (center) and Israel Foreign Trade Insurance Company (IFTRIC) head Doron Klausner (right) sign an agreement to bolster local trade and investment in eastern Europe yesterday, as Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel looks on. IFTRIC will provide guarantees to local firms operating in former communist countries. Local businessmen will also serve as advisers on EBRD projects in eastern Europe. Finance Minister Avraham Shohat told de Larosiere later that Israel would agree to increase the bank's paid-in capital. Israel is one of 33 member states in the London-based EBRD. (Text: Joe Rosenfeld)

Shapira can keep control of Kfar Sava property

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE Tel Aviv District Court yesterday rejected a request by Carmel Carpets' liquidators to prevent MK Avraham Shapira from managing real estate registered under his name in Kfar Sava.

The liquidators claimed Shapira and his family, the former owners of Carmel Carpets, stole property from the carpet conglomerate which they intend to sell.

Carmel Carpets went bankrupt

almost three years ago and was sold to the Eitani family last year. "At this stage, due to absence of evidence, I see no reason to issue a temporary injunction. On these grounds I reject the request," Judge Yishai Levit ruled.

According to attorney Ya'acov Weinroth, Shapira's legal representative, the property in Kfar Sava is private land owned by Concorde, a company owned by

the Shapira family. At the hearing, Weinroth said the liquidators' estimation that the property is worth \$10m. is exaggerated. Shapira claims the property is worth \$1.8m.

Weinroth said he plans to ask the court to replace Yossi Cohen, one of the company's two liquidators, on the grounds he is spreading false rumors that Carmel Carpets is paying for Shapira's legal expenses.

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	Binyanei Ha'uma	8:00 a.m.	15
Karmiel	Outside Post Office	8:00 a.m.	15
Nahariya	Bus Station	8:00 a.m.	15
Ashkelon	Opposite Bus Station	8:00 a.m.	15
Ashdod	Bus Station	8:30 a.m.	15
Safed	Yigal Alon Center	7:30 a.m.	15
Beersheba	Bus Station	7:30 a.m.	15
Arad	Bus Station	7:30 a.m.	15
Dimona	Matnass Dimona	7:00 a.m.	15
Haifa	Alongside Bus Station	8:30 a.m.	10
Tel Aviv	Hechal Hatarbut	8:30 a.m.	10
Ra'anana	Yad Lebanim	9:00 a.m.	10
Gush Etzion	Efrat Commerce Center	8:00 a.m.	15
Beit Shmesh + }	Bus Station at }	8:30 a.m.	10
Givat Sharett }	the Junction }		

Return time from Wingate will be announced later.

Ticket Hotline: 09-989149/982957

M-Systems has \$723,000 loss

M-SYSTEMS Flash Disk Pioneers reported second-quarter net losses of \$723,000, no change compared to the same period in 1994. Revenues rose to \$1.29m., from \$1.14m.

Six-month net losses were \$1.28m., from losses of \$1.58m., on revenues of \$2.78m., from \$1.87m.

Rachel Neiman

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ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

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Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	5.000	5.000	5.125	
U.S. dollar	4.750	4.825	4.750	
Pound sterling (£100,000)	2.825	2.825	2.825	
German mark (DM 200,000)	1.750	1.750	2.000	
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)				
Yen (10 million yen)				
Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (14.9.95)				
Currency basket	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	3.4051	3.4201	2.98	3.11
German mark	3.0177	3.0284	1.89	2.10
Pound sterling	2.0207	2.0313	1.89	2.10
French franc	4.8712	4.7466	4.59	4.82
Japanese yen (100)	0.5861	0.5867	0.57	0.61
Swiss franc (100)	2.3538	2.3571	2.38	2.33
Dutch guilder	1.8107	1.8400	1.77	1.87
Swiss franc	2.4888	2.5290	2.44	2.57
Norwegian krona	0.4822	0.4720	0.41	0.44
Swedish krona	0.4201	0.4200	0.45	0.48
Denmark krone	0.4822	0.4821	0.51	0.54
Finland mark	0.6798	0.6808	0.66	0.71
Canadian dollar	2.2109	2.2463	2.17	2.28
Australian dollar	2.2905	2.3276	2.25	2.36
S. African rand	0.8218	0.8251	0.74	0.84
Belgian franc (10)	0.8869	1.0028	0.88	1.02
Austrian schilling (10)	2.8942	2.9308	2.83	2.98
Italian lira (1000)	1.8743	1.9049	1.84	1.8913
Jordanian dinar			4.10	4.238
Spanish peseta (100)			0.86	0.93
ECU	3.8080	3.8944	4.68	4.81
Irish punt	4.7818	4.8388	4.68	4.81
Portuguese escudo (100)	2.3788	2.4183	2.25	2.40

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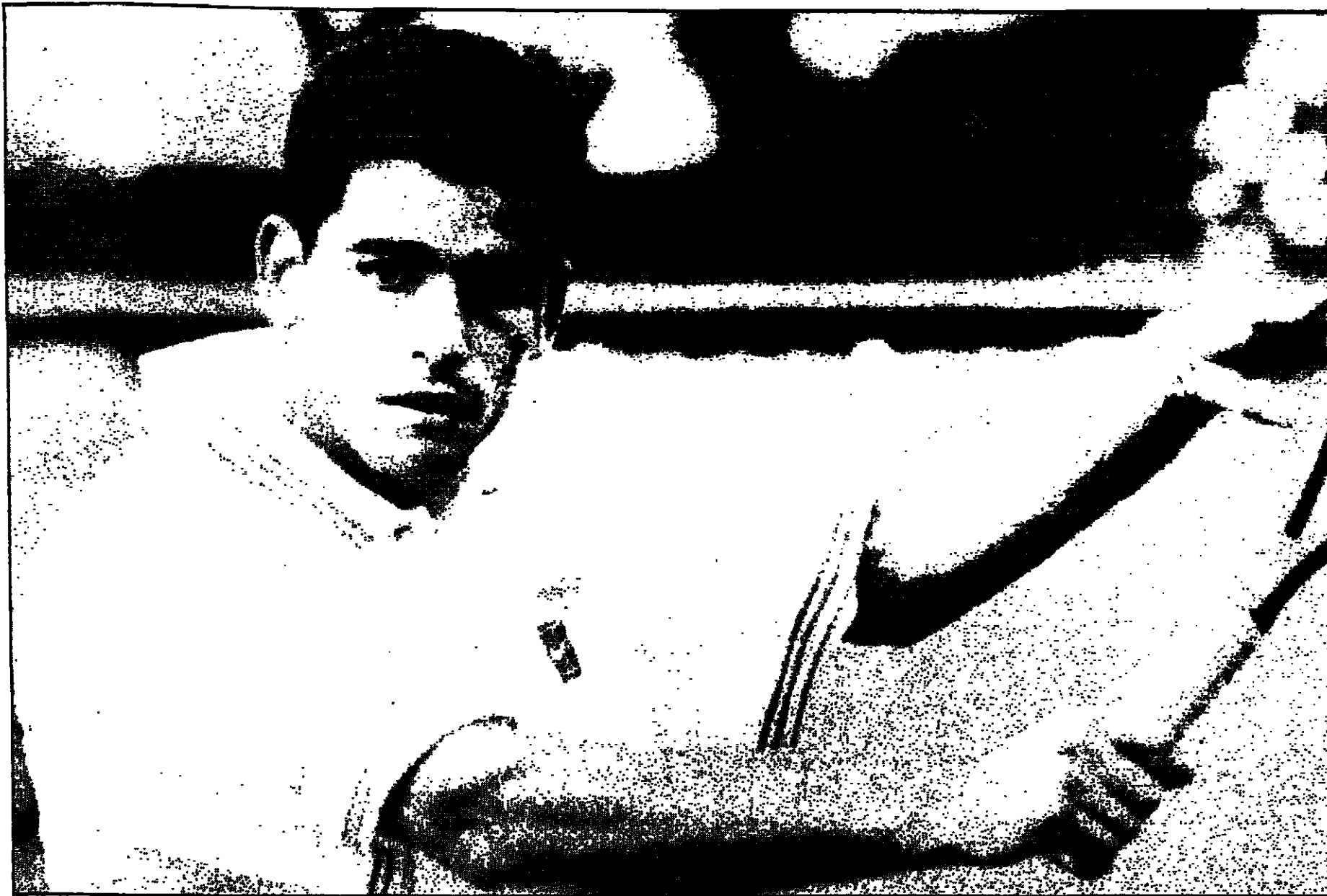
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THE MAN TO BEAT - Pete Sampras fires the ball back to Andrei Agassi.

Sampras tops Agassi again - in exhibition

ROSEMONT, Illinois (AP) - Pete Sampras and Andre Agassi went at it again last night - this time in a one-set exhibition as part of a fund-raiser to fight AIDS.

Sampras, who stopped Agassi in four sets to capture the US Open on Sunday, took the set 6-3.

"We've been asked to come here for what we managed to accomplish in our professional arena," Agassi said. "There will be competition, but it all basically is

for the same goal."

The world's top two tennis players were participating in the World Team Tennis All-Star Smash Hits, a benefit for the AIDS Foundation of Chicago and the Elton John AIDS Foundation.

The event attracted a crowd of 10,152 and was expected to raise at least \$200,000.

"It shows you where our hearts are," Agassi said. "... You want to see people put out efforts (to help a good cause)."

Since his Open victory, Sampras said he has played a little golf and earlier yesterday visited his ailing coach, Tim Gullikson, at his home in nearby Wheaton. Gullikson has brain cancer.

"He's doing well," Sampras said. "We just hung out. Hopefully, he'll do some traveling next year. As long as I know he's OK, I'm doing OK."

Other players participating were: Martina Navratilova, Arantxa Sanchez Vi-

cario, Mark Woodforde, Todd Woodbridge, Natasha Zvereva and Lindsay Davenport.

The event was hosted by Elton John and Billie Jean King, who acted as coaches during the set.

The Elton John Foundation is an international non-profit organization funding patient care and AIDS prevention education. The AFC is the largest source of private support for AIDS care.

Newcastle looks set to prolong City's agony

LONDON (Reuters) - Top of the table Newcastle United should chalk up its fifth victory in six starts when it faces bottom club Manchester City in the English Premier League tomorrow.

Newcastle's 100 percent record ended last week when it lost 1-0 at Southampton, but it will be a major surprise if City, which has lost four of its opening five matches including its last three without scoring a goal, takes anything back from its visit to St. James' Park.

Newcastle, chasing its first league title since 1927, lead the table on goal difference from Manchester United which gained a creditable 0-0 draw with Rotor Volgograd in Russia in a UEFA Cup tie on Tuesday and returns to league action with a home match against Lancashire rivals Bolton Wanderers.

Newly promoted Bolton looks set for a fight against an immediate return to the First Division with just one win from its opening five league matches.

New manager Roy McFariand must decide whether to restore his transfer-listed captain Alan Stubbs to the side following the breakdown of his move to Blackburn, while United manager Alex Ferguson will be without his record £7.0 million signing Andy Cole after the striker pulled a hamstring in last week's 3-2 win at Everton.

Joe Kinnear's unfashionable Wimbledon, which climbed to third place last week after its 1-0 win over Liverpool, travels to Aston Villa, which has made its best start to a season since it won the league in 1981.

Kinnear, banned from the touchline until October 31, could face further disciplinary trouble today.

F.A. officials will investigate his "walk-on" part in the turbulent clash with Liverpool which saw Vinny Jones sent off for the 10th time in his career after his teammate Andy Thorn was recalled from the dressing room after originally being sent off for a

clash with Liverpool striker Stan Collymore.

While Jones is likely to play against Villa, Thorn could miss the match with a knee injury that forced him out of last week's match at half-time.

There is an intriguing match at Anfield where Liverpool takes on champions Blackburn, which clinched the title at Liverpool in the last match of last season despite losing 2-1.

A similar result this time after losing three of its opening five league games and its opening Champions League match to Spartak Moscow on Wednesday, will further distance Blackburn from this season's title race.

There is also likely to be a fascinating duel at Stamford Bridge where Dutch playmaker Ruud Gullit of Chelsea and Southampton playmaker Matt Le Tissier are on opposing sides.

Gullit's superlative skills have brought him a bounty of international and domestic honors over the last 15 years while Le Tissier, arguably an even more gifted ball-player than the Dutchman, cannot even get into a workmanlike England team.

Both teams won for the first time last week after moderate starts to the season, although the Saints will do well to repeat last April's 2-0 league win at the Bridge.

While Gullit is settling in well at Chelsea, it seems as though Tony Yeboah of Leeds has never been anywhere else.

In fact, the Ghanaian has only been playing in Yorkshire since moving from Germany in January but he has already scored 21 goals in 25 appearances for Leeds, including seven this season in only six matches.

His hat-trick against Monaco in Leeds 3-0 UEFA Cup win on Tuesday was the scoring highlight of the week.

In contrast, QPR has scored only one goal between the Play-ers all season and will do well to even get a draw when it plays at Elland Road.

Galil beats Finns to advance

HAPOEL Galil Elyon beat Finnish champions Kaban Kabala 101-83 at Kfar Blum last night in the first round, second leg of the European Champions' League basketball tournament. Galil thus advances to the next round of the competition where it takes on the Greek team of Herakles of Salonika.

In Wednesday's action, both Maccabi Rishon LeZion and Hapoel Holon advanced to the second round of the Korac Cup. Maccabi beat Bipa Moda Odessa 89-63. Their opponent in the second round will most likely be Denmark's Brondby.

Hapoel Holon beat Omonea (Nicosia) 82-67 in their second leg, first-round action. They will face Filodoro of Bologna in the second round.

Post Sports Staff



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Retrial ordered in Kikos murder

AMIR ROZENBLIT and Itim

THE Supreme Court yesterday voided the murder conviction of Suleiman Abeid, who had been sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of Ofakim teenager Hanit Kikos two years ago, and ordered the case retried in Beersheba District Court.

Justice Shlomo Levine, Yitzhak Zamir and Tova Strassberg-Cohen said the lower court had to hear all the new evidence that had come to light following the discovery of Kikos's remains earlier this summer.

The court, however, ruled that Abeid must remain in prison for now. His appeal to be released on bail will be heard at a later date.

Abeid was convicted by the district court last year, based mainly on his confession that he had dumped Kikos's body at the Du-dan garbage site in Beersheba. His attorney, Avigdor Feldman, appealed the conviction, on grounds the confession was not backed by any solid evidence.

Kikos's remains were found earlier this summer in a drainage hole at a totally different location in Beersheba. Feldman then asked the Supreme Court to immediately acquit his client, claiming the skeleton's location totally undermined the basis for the conviction.

In a hearing last week, Feldman had opposed the idea of sending the case back to the district court for a retrial. But he withdrew his

objection yesterday, noting that if the lower court convicted Abeid again, he would retain the option of appealing again to the Supreme Court.

The court accepted Feldman's demand that the original conviction be voided.

"Justice has been done," said Abeid, in a phone call to his family in Rahat in the Negev.

Kikos's father, Rafi Kikos, said his family was pleased the case was being returned to Beersheba, and they would patiently await the outcome of the new trial.

Feldman yesterday also submitted his response to evidence submitted by the prosecution Wednesday, that fibers from Kikos's blouse found near her remains resembled fibers found in Abeid's car after he was arrested.

Feldman said the fibers were common cotton fibers that are found almost everywhere and their presence in both places did not constitute sufficient evidence for a criminal conviction.

The Abeid house in Rahat was the scene of much excitement yesterday, as neighbors and friends streamed in to congratulate the family upon hearing of the court decision.

"I feel justice has been done," said Manal Abeid, Abeid's daughter. "God willing, they will also acquit him in the district court and he will return home."



Avraham Picali, who sells Jewish ritual items in Jerusalem's Mea She'arim neighborhood, displays some of the shofarot he had available yesterday. With Rosh Hashana approaching, shofar sales are brisk, Picali said, though the long, curled shofar preferred by some Sephardi communities are in short supply this year. (Haggai Shmueli / Israel)

Joint clean-up campaign of Gulf of Akaba-Eilat

Jerusalem Post Staff

Israel, Egypt, and Jordan will be conducting a joint clean-up of their shared coastlines along the Gulf of Akaba-Eilat this weekend, as part of the annual International Clean-Up Day, in which over 100 countries will participate. The event is sponsored by Clean Up the World, with the support of the UN Environmental Program.

The activities, taking place today through Sunday, included an underwater clean-up of the shorelines of Akaba and Eilat, and beach clean-ups at Akaba, Eilat, and the southern Sinai.

Students will be crossing each other's borders to aid in the clean-up.

Flight disruptions expected at Ben-Gurion Airport on Sunday

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

DISRUPTIONS in all airline flight schedules are expected at Ben-Gurion Airport on Sunday, due to the labor dispute between the workers and management of Flight Services, the company in charge of fueling airplanes.

The workers' unions of all airport workers and El Al demonstrated yesterday, together with Histadrut officials, in solidarity with the 120 workers of Flight Services, whose management has not renewed their wage agreement for the past six years.

Histadrut trade union section chairman Amir Peretz announced yesterday that unless Flight Services' management en-

ters into negotiations with the workers' union and the Histadrut by tomorrow night, all the airport and El Al unions will coordinate organizational measures which will disrupt all flight schedules, as of Sunday.

The airport workers' unions include, in addition to El Al and Flight Services, Israel Aircraft Industries, customs, Tamam, which provides food for airlines, and Maman.

Peretz sharply denounced the Flight Services management for refusing to negotiate with the workers on renewing their wage

agreement, and for preventing workers' protest meetings.

Stating that "the Histadrut will not allow the management to humiliate the workers and trample their rights," Peretz said the Histadrut and the unions' joint staff will not enable Flight Services to make use of alternative services to refuel airplanes, as long as the management refuses to enter into negotiations with the workers.

The Histadrut and Flight Services union declared a labor dispute two weeks ago, as a prelude to sanctions and a strike.

IDF to unveil latest US rocket system

ALON PINKAS

THE Artillery Corps will next week unveil the advanced Multiple-Launcher-Rocket-System (MLRS) system acquired from the US, army sources confirmed last night.

Following the Gulf war, the IDF decided to purchase the advanced system, made by Loral-LTV, but budgetary constraints postponed acquisition until the summer of 1994.

The MLRS is a multiple-rocket launcher which covers an area, rather than a specific target, and is used against second-echelon forces with the purpose of cutting the line connecting front-line troops with their logistic support and reinforcements.

Each rocket contains dozens of smaller bomblets able to penetrate armored vehicles from above.

The IDF initially acquired a battery consisting of some launchers. The Artillery and Ordnance corps have sent more 100 soldiers to study the system's characteristics and operational features at the US Army Artillery School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

Shilo rabbi convicted of stoning Arab cars

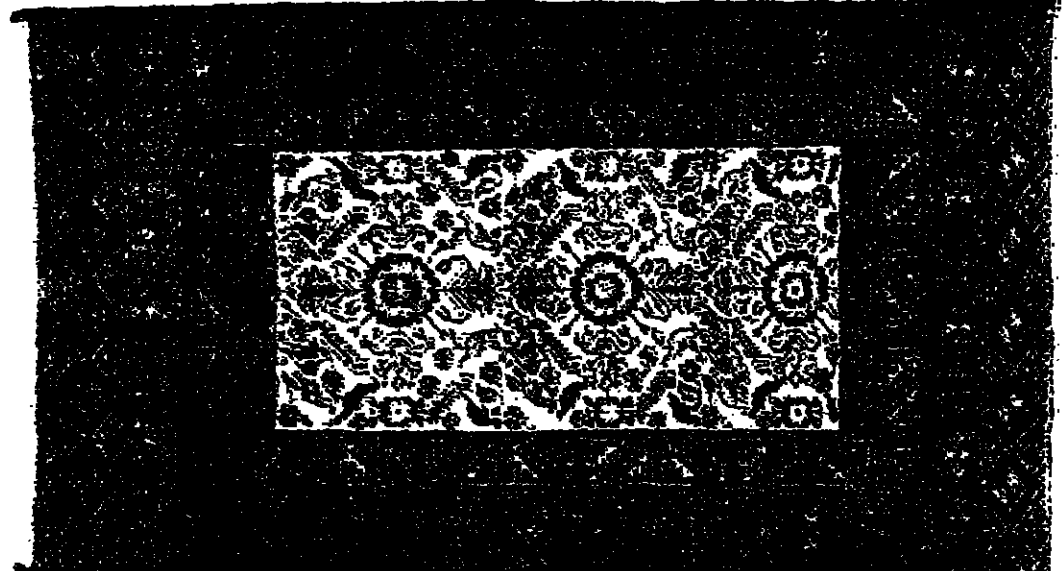
Rabbi Yehiel Ya'ish, 30, of Shilo, who was convicted of throwing stones at Arab cars, was sentenced to six months' public service and a year's probation by Jerusalem District Court yesterday.

Judge Ruth Or overruled a plea bargain under

which Ya'ish would not have been convicted, but would have voluntarily done six months' public service. She found him guilty of endangering life on a public thoroughfare.

Itim

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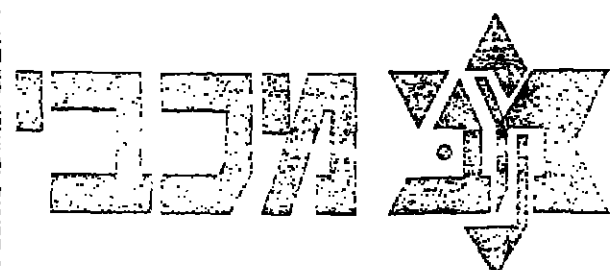
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